



SEDUCING TYRANTS

North Korea succumbed to charm. Could it work with Iran?

P.26



HITLER HA HA HA

P.50

WEALTH REPORT

The meaning of money, by Conrad Black, Don Cherry and more P.34

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THIS WEEK

Celebrity

6 CAPITAL DARY

Michael Rapaport on Jason Kennedy's ups for all things Jewish and Minka Kelly's golden locks

10 ANDREW POTTER

Why the FLG and terrorism on 5—and what 6—a threat in Quebec

National

16 OUR NEW CLIMATE

The good and bad of global warming: better was and more tourists, but flooded cities and rampant disease

22 HOT CUB, NOT SPALLA

Forget what TV shows say about treating criminals with hot gloves. In the war against the Taliban, sometimes force must be used on detainees

23 WHISTLE-BLOWER

The Ottawa professor who is challenging the military to come clean

24 GETTING TOGETHER

Uniting the right worked out well for the Conservatives. Now there's talk the NDP and Liberals should follow suit

25 IN PAU/MA'S FIELD

A link think tank to legalize poppy cultivation in Afghanistan. This could be Canada's chance to win local support

World

26 WILL BUSH BOMB IRAN?

The President seems determined to attack before his term is up. But could denuclearization be achieved with flexibility and a little help from Russia and China?

32 DISMANTLING THE LEFT

A U.K. lefty calls out his own kind. "Leftists are far more likely than conservatives to excuse fascist governments"

MACLEAN'S

VOLUME 100 NUMBER 2, FEBRUARY 26, 2007 • SINCE 1930

2 From the Editors 4 Mail Bag

6 Steven Seagal

14 Interviewer Michael Unger talks to Kenneth Whyte

FEB. 26-MAR. 5, 2007



P.50

THE BACK PAGES

59 Media

Hiller is an hilarious mess: murder, grief, pleasure, secular church moves into the church

56 Storya

The new British version of our movies and books

56 Film

High Great and Jude Low would really like a spanking

57 Season

RV resorts (not trailer parks) have spas, ballrooms and golf

58 Fashion

Shy-up stockings—practical, exotic and made for men, too

60 Help

What to do about the sex-after-baby blues

61 Foodah

Pleasant cheeks and a fiery speech at the Grammy

63 Recommended List

Almodóvar anthology, rebel retrospective, and digital Darwin

64 The End

Robert Caro, 1929-2007

Business

34 RETIREMENT POLL

An exclusive poll reveals that young Canadians are more worried than ever about their retirement plans, while seniors are happily living the dream

28 HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BRSP

Once outgated by a candy bar, the BRSP is now the Super Bowl of retirement savings. This year, it turns 50

36 THEM TWO CENTS

Famous Canadians lend their wisdom: what's the most important lesson they've learned about money?

39 THE SECOND ACT

Four Canadians show retirement's golf swings and three shares to seniors as unexpected second careers

Education

41 UNIVERSITIES RESPOND

As cheating on campus rises, schools pass the buck, pointing to underfunding and a tough job market

Society

42 ANARCHY IN THE U.K.

England is hypercivilizing over its unruly youth. But the crime rate hasn't budged in 10 years. So why all the fuss?

Recreation

48 IS THE END NIGH?

Between ancient astronomy and recent solar storms, doomsayers of myriad stripes predict the apocalypse—in 2012

Home

46 BARRIES IN TV LAND

For many, TV's an "electronic nanny." But some fear too much boob tube hinders your baby's brain development

Newsweekers

48 THE NEW TIM HORTON

A Colorado Avalanche player breaks the record for consecutive games, and the first contender for polvency of Anne Nicole Smith's baby

MACLEAN'S

Starting this week, Maclean's brings you the country's richest resource of national affairs commentary with the new Maclean's 30. With profiles, experience and strong opinions, our group of commentators—from politicians and activists to journalists and academics—weigh in on the big issues. From former Liberal ministers Lloyd Axworthy and Allan Rock to conservatives Tom Flanagan and Rick Anderson, Maj-Gen. Lewis Macdonald to Irshad Manji, they'll challenge our readers—and each other—as they comment directly on our original online coverage.

'Why not check out what's going on in high school? Most students don't get out of grade school without cheating.'

CHEATERS IN THE LIGHT

With writers Cady Cotler, Nicholas Kohler and Maria Pappas on the line on a major problem at our institutions of Higher Learning ("The great university cheating scandal," Cover, Feb. 12). Over the past four years of teaching, I have noticed an increased sense of entitlement among my students. Some of the reasons that because they are "purchasing" an education, they "deserve" to get the highest grades and they will do what they feel is necessary to obtain them. And not regard for the morality of their actions. Students are encouraged in this pursuit of high grades at any cost by an administration that caters to their every demand, and runs on the rule of student rights at the expense of a rigorous education. When I have endeavored to enforce standards and disciplines in my classes, I have been frustrated by an administration that appears to be unable to say no to students, much like the modern-day parents criticised by author David Walsh in his *10th* with Kate Fillmore (New Yorker, Feb. 12). The article goes as far as to make the teacher for a professor to owe to student demands than to challenge a student as front of an over-protective administration. As your editorials state, "adolescents have no to be met," not just in supporting their honest, hard-working students, but in supporting their faculty.

Jenny Gaskin, Assistant Professor of Science, University of Calgary

IN ELEMENTARY and high school, teachers judge students in order to allow failing students to proceed to the next grade, due to some make-good sense of deterring a young person's self-esteem. In our society, people are young, not just students, are bombarded with messages that glorify the individual who can do it on his own and around the system and play it for a while. Those with integrity and honesty are portrayed as naive. Children learn to, and emulate the actions of, those around them—parents and teachers as well as their sports and entertainment idols. How can we expect them to make integrity and honesty if we don't do it ourselves?

Karen Kessler, Kanata, Ont.

BLINDING A PUBLICATION writer agency, I can tell you that the second most frequent writing request, after books, is for school pages.

We have even been asked to write Ph.D. essays. We respond to all such queries by refusing to help students cheat themselves out of an education. David Lashinsky, The Happy Guy Marketing, Cheshire, Ont.

THE NOTION that 75 per cent of university students admitted to serious cheating, as written work strikes me as rather excessive. One would expect that with serious cheating, average grades would be on the rise. I have not noticed this in my 30 years or so of uni-



versity teaching. But supposing it were the case, there would also be those by implication that Canada's Magazine of the Year is infiltrated by a rather large percentage of cheaters. And by your own admission, they seem to be doing a rather fair job! Gerard Muldrew, Department of Philosophy, York University, Toronto

THERE WAS A TIME not too long ago when people went to university to become intelligent, prudent and wise. That changed when knowledge became a commodity. Now, universities and professors are how people also sleep, and students are consumers. Universities are marked by value, value, can foster satisfaction and make pleasure play (your own annual survey proves that). Students play for the best deals, they sleep where they can be seen, and they move effortlessly every message that being seen in public with

out the latest degree from the best school is simply embarrassing. The difference between Gaudin and Giger? Of course don't believe we based on the intrinsic intelligence or wisdom of the observation. Believe me because I own all five (invaluable) beds after my sister I bought them for bed and square. Paul Lewis, Ph.D., M.B.A., M.A., B.Sc. B.Ed., Aquatic, Vancouver

THE REASON students cheat and profit don't care is because they don't have an incentive to do otherwise. The goal of faculty is to keep their jobs. This causes their primary goal not education, it's research. If a student's current goal is to earn a focused education, maybe he should go to college. Steven Givney, Leckridge, Alta.

LITERALLY, I SPENT five years at the University of Western Ontario and I never checked a swear. But I did have a lot of good techniques, and not just about old plagiarism either. Yellow paper walls are a good place to hide your cheat sheets. Take them into the bathroom often during exams. You can get a lot of good reading done in there. And Maclean's, why not go to a copy factory and check out the cheating sheets on it in high school? In fact, most students didn't even make most of primary school without cheating. Krista Kuchel, York, Ontario

IF INDEED more young women seemed done, math, literature, and Shakespearean quizes on their upper thighs in order to cheat the examiner, the resultant damage to their tender skins can be blamed on the history, science or English professors who are unwilling or unable to confront examinations that test comprehension and critical skills rather than memorization. Students will be forced to cheat and professors will be forced to become wall-squid policemen to listen to the operations of the academy and the demands of society divers, while society demands job training. Tony Ay, Executive Professor, Department of History, University of Toronto, Toronto

GRADING COMES in many forms. Our schools have been undermined by teacher or policies that have produced inconsistencies in academic standards that have failed to protect the integrity of brighter students who

have worked hard to achieve high marks. Teachers make allowances for some students and not for others. A test that is given to one class on a Monday is given to another class later in the week, allowing students to access the questions prior to testing. Technology such as graphing calculators is often programmed, showing of the work that can be copied during tests, while electronic translation often include programs that are useful for cheating. Students who cheat and/or have been given special favour in high school are rewarded with the most sought after spots in university without the skills to succeed. Is it surprising they cheat? Jill Benjamin, Vancouver

TRASHING AMERICA

I FORGOT ANSWERS when people say they love America, as I found Martin Newland's column on anti-U.S. sentiment in England very thought-provoking ("America-bashing," the new U.S. report, World, Jan. 29). Western society and many of its needs are so focused on the bad news America has taken, they don't realize how improvement it has made. America was hit hard in 9/11 and it responded bravely. I do not agree with some things George W. Bush has done, but I do not think he is the worst president in history. Bush and Tony Blair realize that the problems of the world are not going to go away if they ignore them. The U.S. will stay in control of keeping order—in it is the world's police. Graeme Gibbs, Winnipeg

I WOULD SUGGEST that Newland take a better look at all aspects of American foreign involvement and current Middle Eastern affairs. The spirit of the Bush and Blair falls of Bush and Blair, but does not seem to number among them the worst one, the decision to invade Iraq. Given its part in the development of the geopolitical situation, what else could any sane person do but adopt an air of exasperation when talking about the U.S. Seeing Americans as just marauding and selfish, more power that there may be a lot over the top—but it is far from silly. David Macdonald, Sydney, N.S.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN FRANCE

IN HIS COLUMN, Mark Steyn makes a very unfair representation of the French policy against anti-Semitism ("Geopolitical powers of the first order," Books, Dec. 18). The Jewish heritage part of the French culture. The French Jewish community make third after the Israeli and the American communities. Our legislation is co-ordinated. Some anti-Semitism has been recognized with the Goyard and Lauchlin Act, and there is a decrease of

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A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF BARACK OBAMA

On Saturday, the Illinois senator finally made it official—he's running for president of the United States. On Sunday, he learned how tough it is going to be. As senior PM John Howard denounced Obama's Iraq withdrawal plan, saying it would "encourage terrorism." And the candidate made his first gaffe, telling an Iowa audience that 1,000 U.S. troops have been "wasted" in Iraq. On Monday, he apologized, saying it was "a slip of the tongue." On Tuesday, he apologized again.

Good news

That's the spirit

The Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee unveiled a "countdown clock" last week marking the time remaining before the start of the 2010 Winter Games. And with the opening ceremonies still three years off, there is already much to celebrate: not even more appear to be confirmed, many venues will be completed as much as two years ahead of time, and so far, the process has been smooth. This, thanks to the leadership of John Paulding, the organizing committee chair. The whole thing is positively an Olympic.

Parlez-vous français?

The bilingual bender is picking up speed on both sides of the border. A new poll shows that 81 per cent of Canadians support the idea that our country has two official languages, while an even larger majority (84.6 per cent) thinks it should be French and English. In the U.S., cities are paying hefty bonuses to civil servants who speak more than one language. And bilingual types like talking bears were among the biggest sellers this past Christmas. But if you really need an incentive to finish your French homework, this is it: new research has found that people who speak two languages are more likely to score off doctors. *Classmate et al.*

A New Deal

Spelling of another tongue, Tony Blair's government is winning job creation by cannot speak English they first having their new employment benefits can follow they talk language class. Currently, the U.K. spends billions of pounds each year providing translation services for some 40,000 immigrants. Welfare

minister Jim Murphy says he's trying to address some of the root causes of chronic unemployment and lower earning rates among the country's ethnic minorities. The complaint, he says, should be in teaching people to get jobs, not translating the language on benefit forms.

Blame it on Rio

After years of public campaigns and green government action, France has claimed Europe's highest fertility rate. More than

Bad news

Try a milk carton photo

It was extremely ironic, but the lesson for Obama, Sen. Linda Chisholm of U.S. forces in Afghanistan. Speaking to CNN last week, the general tried to stay positive: "Our military will not rest until three men are found, captured or killed." He said his troops might want to check the movie because Oliver Stone is reportedly working on a blockbuster that chron-

icling puffin per pack. Thankfully, NATO's paramilitary forces in core strength.

Fly me to the moon

In a sign of the growing alliance of the governments of Hugo Chávez and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Iran Air will begin flying to Venezuela next month. The weekly link between Tehran and Caracas will even make a brief stop in Damascus, Syria, allowing for even more meetings between some of the world's least allied nations. In January, Ahmadinejad paid a visit to Chavez, and the pair announced a \$2 billion fund for emergency investments in "friendly" developing nations. And the new best buddies have been speaking by phone almost weekly. Are we going to have to start worrying about a Venezuelan beach?

Mugabe's mess

It seems only total economic and political collapse will end Zimbabwe of its popular strong man, Robert Mugabe. The octogenarian dictator remained impassive last week amid strikes, blackouts, a 500 per cent inflation, a splintering army and a police force on the verge of breakdown. Teachers stopped going to school because teachers had outpaced their pay, while children swept through Harare because no one was maintaining water treatment plants. This is a country that, shortly after independence, was considered a beacon of order on a troubled continent.

Addictive additives

Smokers who've not seen to kick the habit might have a legitimate excuse: significant stress relief is not even. According to modern research by scientists who've compared the amount of nicotine (the stuff that's addictive) in people who've increased by 11 per cent between 1996 and 2005. Not only do smokers loaded with more nicotine, they have slower, providing more cancer-

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The very very brief history of violence in Quebec



ANDREW POTTER

By the time this issue is in the newsstands, Montreal might be under lockdown, reeling from a string of violent and deadly attacks on its infra-structure. The airport and railway might be shut down, with soldiers roaming the downtown streets enforcing a curfew and detaining citizens without warrant. In short, it might be October 1970 all over again, with a reborn FLQ bringing a fresh campaign of separatist terror to the people of Canada.

That is what this ad says, anyway, in the form of a pair of cartoonists' rant over the pain while by the "Canada Lausim" call of the FLQ. The most recent dead-innocent media and government officials on Jan. 18, anniversary some pretty straightforward bombing (terrorism) beginning on Feb. 15, "we will focus on strategic targets, including roads, railway lines, airports, water and gas facilities. It is possible that there will be dead and wounded." (Other parts of the message are less ominous: "seeking no politics," "begin again" on the "West Island" but a thoroughly non-partisan endeavor.)

All this comes at a time when support for sovereignty in Quebec is at a relatively mild 45 percent, and the Parti Quebecois has fallen to 34 percent in the polls, behind Jean Charest and the Liberals for the first time since the election of 1993. The furthest of the separatist movement has and will be the rule, but one thing is clear: the people of Quebec—especially those with separatist leanings—will not tolerate for one second death and destruction in the pursuit of independence. Any state Quebec might have over had for revolutionary guerrilla tactics was used over and over in 1969, 1970, when Pierre Laporte's body was found in the trunk of a car by the 84th Street. In the months that followed, public support for the FLQ blossomed away, and as successful was terror work by the police took its toll, the group ceased

to exist as a functioning organization.

For most Canadians under 40 or so, the story of the FLQ is just the compressed narrative of the October Crisis. In the shadow of the drama, it is easy to forget that between 1965 and 1970, the FLQ exploded over 200 bombs in Montreal, killing at least five people and wounding dozens of others, before finally flaring out. The FLQ was inspired by other revolutionaries like Che Guevara and the anti-colonial movements in Algeria,



How lame to blow up mailboxes when you could run a province bigger than Norway

and Polzine, but to denote cracked that of American militant left groups such as the Weather Underground, an ally of the Students for a Democratic Society.

Yet the exhaustion of utopian energies in the early 1970s does not entirely explain why the FLQ, and terrorism in general, failed to attract much to the Quebec separatist movement. One view, most popular outside Quebec, is that the federalist show of force was decisive: show the Québécois you mean business and they'll back down. An opposing argument is that it was not Ottawa's intransigence but its subsequent flexibility that won the day, showing Québécois that almost any legitimate aspiration could be accommodated within the federal structure.

It is actually unlikely that either of these was the catalyst for channeling separatist energies into eliminative institutions. The route around that followed the invention of the *Writ Nullum*. An could just as easily have caused more kidnappings, leading to a cycle of escalation. As for federal flexibility, nearly 40 years of accommodation have done little to entice Québécois' and widespread sense that they are being perpetually ground under by the great federal steamroller. No, something else is at work here. More than

anything, the peaceful means of Quebec separatism is probably a consequence of *la décolonisation*. What drives separatist violence in places like Spain and the U.K. is the (often legitimate) feeling among some groups that they will remain a perpetual minority, consistently outvoted by the majority language or culture in the national institutions. This sense of being alien, as was the case with the Basques and the Catalans, they are powered from using their own language (not to foot)

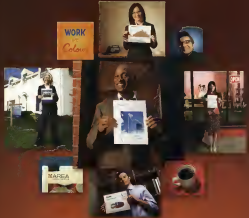
institutions. That the U.K. like Spain before it, is now showing toward devolution proof of the inherent power of federalism.

In contrast, the federal nature of our state gives Quebec a robust set of social and political institutions in which French-speakers form a local majority. In fact, the very essence of the Parti Québécois is a legitimate contender for power was probably enough to silence the FLQ of origin. How lame does it look to be blowing up mailboxes, when you could be part of a government running a provincial state with a population bigger than Norway or Denmark? The FLQ was always doomed to be little more than a cycle-of-violence political cemetery.

So where does that leave the *Canaille* *Laurin* call? More than likely, it is just another one of those rejected outcries of the latter part of the 20th century. There are plenty of don't-aids and crimes online, where most social-media canners and plot and subplots their destructive fantasies. Sure, they might blow some stuff up. But if they do, they will face the standard of Canadians from coast to coast, English and French, federalist and separatist. ■

ON THE WEB: For more, Andrew Potter will be filing at www.thecalifornia.com/magazine

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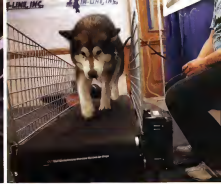
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PUTTING ON THE DOG—FOR 131 YEARS

The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show is held every year at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Some 3,500 dogs compete for Best of Breed and Best in Show, with each dog arriving with a posse of owners, groomers, trainers and trainers.

1. A standard poodle is groomed prior to her competition.
2. A husky is groomed before the show. Thousands of dog lovers flock to the city for Westminster, the second-oldest continuously held sporting event in the U.S. after the Kentucky Derby.

3. Dog owners and trainers attending the show groom their pets at a nearby hotel.

4. A pug gets a bath from its owner in the doggy spa at the Hotel Pennsylvania, across from Madison Square Garden.

5. A dog entered in the show with a pet treadmill at a hotel.

TOP ROW: STEPHEN DEKOR/GETTY IMAGES, ERIC DAVIES/OUTLINE, ERIC DAVIES/OUTLINE
BOTTOM ROW: PHOTOFEST/OUTLINE, ERIC DAVIES/OUTLINE, GARY WILKINSON

As One young fellow said to me, "I wish my mother wouldn't make me her project. I'm not her project. I wish I'd have her own life." I think we've made our children into our projects as parents. We shouldn't live vicariously through them. I think sometimes there is too much focus on the child. I often say to parents, "Let's talk back to whomever was growing up. Did your teenage son carry single practice of early single soccer pants? Not just pants, practice?"

Q: Could you expect that if kids are safer than ever before, maybe bubble-wrapping them has subsided?

A: Well, most of those things that have changed haven't actually been because of parenting. They're almost all attributable to the rather uneasy and anguished world of public health, occupational health and safety, and safety (it's all about injury prevention).



'I wish my mother wouldn't make me her project. I'm not her project. I wish she'd get her own life.'

Q: But many of these things are driven by government reacting to parents, by public pressure. Is that the answer, no?

A: Yes, but I don't want to suppress every aspect of kids' rule-breaking behaviors that inadvertently we're not giving them the advantage that they could find in our own societies now (we've made those constraints safer). We still have to make sure our kids have environmental time, have the responsibility, have the dangerous toys, the pocket knives, the chemistry sets and the scooters.

Q What are the long-term consequences of risk-averse parenting? What happens when the kids hit their twenties and thirties?

A: What we're seeing is the adolescent rise. It used to be that the biggest cohort of kids who came in for counseling came for relationship issues. Now it's sexuality.

Q: Anxiety?

A: Anxiety is the biggest referral item. And a lot of it—you know, burnout, anxiety, sexual performance, and anxiety about being away from home and occupational placement—often if someone doesn't have the work habits or the sense of themselves being able to enter systems and know that they're going to survive it.

Q: Is it being away from home, or...

A: In some cases it's an inability to function on their own away from home. If from every young age you've not had to deal with the knocks of life, you're not going to be ready for what inevitably happens to all of us. At some point we find. You know, we need to give our kids some sense of their own responsibility for themselves, as opposed to always being the ones saying, "Well, you know, you're great, you're great." Sometimes they also need to hear that, "No, that wasn't a very good job."

Q: That you're happy that you didn't get that, that you failed the test, or you didn't make the team.

A: We're seeing a huge amount of plugs from adolescents, a sense of no boundaries on cheating, or a sense of entitlement. Here you have strong young people who are desperate to succeed and feel like the chips are down and they have to perform, and they haven't, necessarily, been in opportunities where they've had to develop common sense or work habits.

Q: So they don't have the tools to respond in adversity?

A: They often don't, actually. In the other hat I wear, studying adolescent-related themes—that's where my research for this idea originally came out of—I was interested how kids came out of adverse circumstances and survived and thrived. What I found was that all the conditions that are being given, those opportunities to take chances, take responsibility for others and for yourself, those were all things that predict positive outcomes for kids growing up under very difficult circumstances, and I began to see the very same things that we know kids get through tough situations were actually being denied kids who were in very, very good living situations, very, very safe environments at home and in the

community.

Q: I would expect most parents would want to strike a balance between finding opportunities for kids to take chances while at the same time not pushing them too far. How do you raise your child to know whether or not he or she's getting enough risk?

A: The kids themselves say they want boundaries and they want limits placed on them, they want to know that someone's watching them, that they're being monitored and cared for, but they really do want opportunities to test their will.

Q: That's why it's so complicated, because they want it both ways, right?

A: Well, they do, and so usually I return to the parents themselves. I sometimes ask, "What is the substitution for all those bad behaviors?" and it's just the substitution that each of the families I've worked with—and I've worked with hundreds like this—if they find a perfect substitution it usually fits with their culture, their community, their career, their ethnic background, their racial background, the way they're seen by others, and the risks that are really present in their communities. So, you know, in one case it's sending your 12-year-old daughter off to Europe and letting her pay for it, works at Tim Hortons for a year. In another case it was just simply having a job that you can work all day in the morning at Dunkin' Donuts. I had this one family where the parents and son were fighting it out, and the mix of parents was tangled in this sort of a war, but then I came. I mean, I'm not promoting that, but in a particular context in a particular family, that was the way that this kid jumped the maturity gap.

Q: Do we, as a society, have a lot of tolerance for risk-takers, people who do things their own way? It seems that we're less and less comfortable with these sorts of behaviors.

A Well, there's a moral panic about kids just having any kind of autonomy. We've criminalized that, whereas a generation or two ago your parents were called to the school board. We've demoralized, embarrased, belittled, or any sort of behaviors of children that don't fit the norms in terms of orderly living into classrooms. We keep kids in school so much longer. All of kids, frankly, who are not academically inclined would probably do a lot better if they were given opportunities to negotiate or transition out into the workforce. End vocations and occupations much earlier, and instead we box them into these vast, wait-no-variables, or they down classrooms and try and teach them in academic ways. It doesn't work. ■



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NICER WINES, A BIT OF MALARIA

The surprising truth of what climate change will mean for Canada

BY ALEXANDRA ESKIN • The U.S. politicians who were once derided with the moniker "My Boys Grow Oats," will likely be greeted by media hype and throngs of fans when he visits Toronto next week. Al Gore is scheduled to talk at the University of Toronto about the hot button issue of climate change, and the lecture was sold out long before most of us had given much thought to his arrival.

For more than a decade, Gore has been urging action on global warming, and with the publication of the recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, it would seem he got it right. Perhaps a little too right: The sad truth is that even if we were to stop all carbon emissions right now, global warming would likely continue for at least three more centuries, says Ian Burnham, an ecosystem scientist at the Natural Resources Canada. "There are millions of tons of carbon CO₂ in the atmosphere already," Burnham explains. "It's got such an equilibrium, we need to absorb all of that carbon dioxide." And that may take a long time. There are 1.6 billion people in the world who live

without electricity, and would like a decent standard of living. China and India are developing their economies and industrializing quickly, mostly through coal. However, these countries would use 71 per cent more energy by 2050 than in the last five years ago. The majority will still be provided by coal, oil and gas.

Faced with this reality, the British government, for one, has overruled science. Rather than focusing only on prevention, it has turned to talk to industry and government agencies about how to adapt. Businesses are given the best data on global warming so they can make the most of the changing climate. Low-lying towns are told how likely they are to flood so they can change building codes if necessary. Farmers are advised on how to profit from a longer growing season, or whether they should migrate to drier weather. It's a controversial strategy that the Harper government has so far avoided.

In fact, Ottawa is investigating how Canada's climate change with global warming. Natural Resources Canada has gathered data from hundreds of scientists from around the world. It's scheduled to present a major report later this year. Much of it took already look at the research. Some of the data highlighted trends that are already occurring: more droughts, storms, air pollution. Others revealed more

serious problems that need urgent action. There were also some pleasant surprises. Not everyone will lose from global warming; some individuals and businesses stand to make great gains from our strange, new climate.

THE UPSIDE

Wine: A little heat will make much of Canada better suited to winemaking, says Tony Ayles, author of *The Wine Atlas of Canada*. Gregory Jones, a climate-change specialist at Seattle's Oregon University, agrees. His research focusing on the Niagara Peninsula predicts a shift from the lighter German grapes that thrive in cooler climates to bolder, more full-bodied varieties. Over the next 50 years, Jones predicts a shift from Pinot Gris and Riesling to Syrah, Cabernet, and Merlot in the region.

Some of this is already taking place. In Ontario, grapes are being grown farther north, with a vineyard to open in Collingwood later this year. In British Columbia, a decade of warmer temperatures has seen wineries open as far north as Tappen and Sefton, B.C. "We are the most northerly vineyard on the continent," says Bradley Smith at Redvale Ridge Vineyards & Winery. "We had a stellar harvest this year, with lots of sun, good heat and just the right amount of rain."

Likewise, in Quebec, a rise of just a few degrees would facilitate varieties with more elegant and intense, such as Syrah and Merlot. However, such varieties may not survive the vineyard's current 15°C winter. The varieties that are presently grown—Pinot Noir, Cabernet and Merlot—could be better at surviving the cold than producing bolder, full-bodied wines, Ayles observes. Biting winters would also benefit those French grape producers, with more of the province capable of cultivating Ayles products. How-

HOT, HOT, HOT: Warmer weather could allow winemakers in far north in Collingwood (see at Canada) to start to grow more complex grapes. It may also mean more forest fires.

ever, one potential loss could be ice wines. This year, it wasn't cold enough to pick the grapes until mid-July, says Charles Palmer, owner of Pithers Estate Winery in the Niagara region, and ideally they should be harvested before Christmas.

Forestry: Global warming will help grow our forestry, according to research by Robert Mundel, a professor at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. With increased carbon dioxide and warmer, wetter weather, he thinks our forest forest will shift north into less hospitable lands. Other scientists agree. "Our predictions show the forest forest moving northwards and becoming more productive," says Jim at Solopaga, an environmental economics professor at Ohio State University. Hardwood forests will move into areas once occupied by the boreal, with more oak, maple, birch, beech and aspen. The size of the boreal forest will likely shrink by five to 10 per cent, but the area of hardwood will double, according to Solopaga's research.

The picture isn't exactly rosy. Forest fires could increase in intensity and severity, as they have in California. Mountain pine beetles, which have devastated the lodgepole pines in B.C., will likely advance their spread across the continent. They can also move in the same pattern. If so, the beetles could spread wherever their trees flourish from the Rockies to the Atlantic coast. But the timing of the pine could help other types of trees to thrive, says David Price, a research scientist at the Canadian Forest Service, with Natural Resources Canada. "We would see a change in the forest structure, but it wouldn't disappear. When one species dies, all others have a better

chance of survival. As the climate warms, we could see more open or white spruce."

Agriculture: This winter suited Mario Benoit to a test. The balmy temperatures meant he could start taping the top of his sugar bush in November instead of February, as is traditional in Quebec. For the past three months, plastic pipes have hung from the bark of 20,000 of his maples. The sugar content isn't as high as it would be in spring, but his company, Produits de l'érable Tépique, uses reverse osmosis to concentrate the sap before bottling.

Maple producers are not the only growers who could gain, says Jim Atkinson, a professor of geography at Michigan State University. As the climate warms, it will happen to crop yields across the Great Lakes over the past 30 years. Since 1980, the average temperature in southern Ontario and Quebec has gone up by about a degree. That has lengthened the growing season and produced higher yields in corn, soybeans and wheat. Corn and soybean could also benefit. As the degree or two would likely speed crop production northwards, he predicts.

Mendel's analysis also says crop production with the higher temperatures predicted over the next 100 years. He predicts an 80 per cent increase in yield by 20 to 40 per cent by the end of the century. The big uncertainty, especially in the Prairies, will be whether water will run out. But water problems could be exacerbated with better management, says Burnham. The longer growing season, he says, "could be an opportunity to grow more productive crops, at two crops, where we currently only grow one."

Tourism: Canada's tourist economy will do very well from a warming climate, second-

only Jacqueline Haveland, an environmental economist at the University of Hamburg. The world must vacation somewhere, and over the next 50 years, southern places such as Greece, Italy and Spain are all expected to become too hot, she says. And places like Panama, the Bahamas and Bermuda may also bear the brunt, as they long, hot summers turn into months of scorching heat.

But here, longer, hotter summers will mean more tourists, better golf seasons and more money to national parks, says David Scott, Canada Research Chair in global change and tourism. Warmer weather will leave ski resorts scrambling, but unlike in Europe, many Canadian resorts have already prepared by buying snow-making machines. Those machines should make up for predicted snow shortages by the end of Quebec and Ontario and B.C.'s winter for at least the next few decades, he asserts. B.C.'s coast is more vulnerable to drought, and that province's ski season might have more difficulties, but as yet, there isn't the research to predict exactly when it will happen. "Most of the tourism industry will be fine at least until 2050 even with the warmest production," says Scott.

THE DOWNSIDE

Permafrost: The abandoned Giant Mine is about a 10-minute drive from Yellowknife's city centre. Its buildings are derelict, the windows are broken and the mine's trade mark is yellow in peeling. But when last beneath it is more important: An indication of what is likely to come with global warming. Based on the worst-case scenario of a 10-degree rise in temperature, scientists predict that it will melt all over the mining of millions of tonnes of gold at Giant. The mine was constructed in a massive cavern, which were to remain frozen solid by the permafrost. That was the theory, anyway. In practice, the mine began to leak out as the ground ice melted with rising temperatures, and this highly toxic waste seeped into the surrounding groundwater.

Consultants hired by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada in 2006 to look into the problem came up with 12 options, and whittled them down to two possibilities: dig up the grey powder and excavate it, or reinforce it. The federal government chose the latter, and this plan is currently under review.

There are thousands of such mining and oil-and-gas waste containment in the Yukon, Northwest, and the Northwest Territories, says Peter Frutkin, Arctic program manager at the Pembina Institute. Actually, the term "contaminant" is an overstatement. Much of it is inert, but it is buried directly into the snow, or into a pit, or an open trench, says Susan Kline, a geoscientist researcher at the Geological Survey of Canada, a part of Natural Resources

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Canada. Now, half of the oil-and-gas waste piles, called dumps, are collapsing, according to research from the Pembina Institute. These contain pollutants such as potassium chloride, benzene, lignanaphenol, and salt. "Some mining dumps contain pollutants like cadmium, which can lead to kidney failure, and zinc, which can cause birth defects in the young," says Len White, president of Pembina. Environmental Canada, which advises governments and NGOs on the issue. "When they were designing these things, no one even thought about a warming climate until just a few years ago."

Flooding: Like Venice, most of the Atlantic coast is sinking, says Leslie Vanecko, associate vice president of research at Laurentian University. That's due to vibrations in the earth's crust, and it means the East Coast is particularly vulnerable to the increased hurricanes, flooding, and storms caused by global warming. The Atlantic storm of the past decade illustrates what is to come, says Vanecko. In 2000, Hurricane Michael struck the coast of Newfoundland with peak winds of 171 km/h, flooding several hundred houses and dozens of roads.

Then, a couple of years later, Hurricane Gustav struck, blowing power lines and causing flooding. After that, Hurricane Juan hit Nova Scotia and P.E.I. With eight deaths, and more than \$100 billion in damage, it is considered the most destructive hurricane to hit the coast in over a century. "These are extreme events that are supposed to take place once every 50 years," Vanecko observes. "They are coming one after another."

On the West Coast, rising sea levels will cause more risk of flooding in the cities of Richmond and Delta, both of which lie below sea level. The Sevens Club of Canada, which used data from NASA to look at what the earth actually looked like when it was two degrees warmer (as opposed to dramatic and slight), suggests that such a rise, which many climatologists deem likely by the middle of the next century, would submerge most of Richmond, Delta and downtown Victoria.

Oil Spills: In the next decade, the conflict between oil and water in Alberta's oil sands will likely come to a head, says James Brown, an environmental consultant who specializes in climate change-related issues. Over the past 10 years, the water flow in the Athabasca River has been steadily falling—water flow is about half what it was in the '70s, his research shows. Part of that is due to the measures needed for oil extraction—seismic is used to separate the bitumen from the sand. But rising temperatures play a role, too. Alberta, like the rest of the country, is

experiencing one of its warmest years on record, and doesn't lose snow and glaciers to feed the river.

By 2015, there won't be enough water to continue developing the oil sands without depleting the river occupancy downstream, Brown states. The immediate effects will be on vegetation and aquatic life. First Nations have already asked for a cap on water withdrawals during the low flow weeks of winter, which has been refused by the Alberta Environment Ministry and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

David Schneider, Killam memorial chair in ecology at the University of Alberta, believes there may be other dire consequences. The river water already contains several carcinogens, such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, which are likely to be of that has seeped into the water table. These substances have been linked to stomach and colon cancers, both of which are more common in the Aboriginal population downstream. The contamination of these carcinogens will likely increase with less water. What this could mean for fish stocks or for cancer rates in

GLOBAL WARMING MAY HELP OUR GREENERY, PUSHING THE BOREAL FORESTS FURTHER NORTH

the Aboriginal population has yet to be investigated.

Greenery: Malheur, which was eliminated from Canada in the early 1900s, is one of the driest in the Pacific Northwest. Agency of Canada said it could spread with a warming climate. Others include hantavirus, which has spread through rats and mice since, Lyme disease, and the West Nile virus. With malaria and West Nile, with that, warmer, wetter winters would mean more mosquitoes and could cause a population explosion of mice and rats, says Paul Squires, director of food and water biotechnology and infectious at the agency. Lyme disease, the most common tickborne disease in North America, is expected to spread out across Canada, moving north hundreds of kilometers, according to research by microbiologist Nick Ogden at the University of Montreal.

"We've been very fortunate in Canada," says Squires. "There are 30,000 cases of Lyme disease every year in the U.S., and hundreds of cases of West Nile virus. But if you change the weather just by a few degrees, the disease dynamic could change completely."

Brown agrees. "When you change the climate, you change every aspect of a country," he says. "We are going to see a new, very different Canada in our lifetimes. What we have to do is to do it with what we can change, and figure out how to adapt." ■

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Is it time for the left to unite?

Saskatchewan Premier Lorne Calvert muses about a possible merger

BY JOHN GIBBES • During Canada's left of centre political parties' last brief forerunning a possible subject for all that over cups of fair-trade coffee to a minister for serious discussion by a pillar of the New Democratic Party, Lorne Calvert, Saskatchewan's NDP premier, a guarded politician hardly given to rash speculation, decided the case for bringing New Democrats and Liberals together as a wide-ranging conversation with Maclean's editors and writers. Asked about the strength of the NDP beyond its caucus, Calvert volunteered that Canadian politicians might be evaluating toward something closer in the two-party U.S. model. "If that is the case, where is the natural party to bring to the centre and left-of-centre?" he said. "I think an argument certainly can be made that the New Democrats may be the natural place for that coalescing to happen."

Calvert did not propose formal steps for bringing together New Democrats and Liberals under a single banner. "I don't know if I'm here to propose merger," he said. Still, he noted that the timing of the rights, after

Stephen Harper underwrote the marriage of the old Canadian Alliance and Progressive Conservative parties, changed Canadian politics. And the premier noted the crucial role the NDP must now play in future with the Liberals. He praised Jack Layton, the party's federal leader, for broadening the NDP's base. "So there may be an opportunity," Calvert said, "for the New Democratic Party to capture some of that which is left-of-centre and build on it."

That explicit approval of the NDP's status as a possible realignment on the left left scepticism Liberals to consider. Recent polls show the federal NDP far behind. A larger Marketing poll conducted Jan. 10-Feb. 4 gave the Tories 56 per cent support nationally, the Liberals 31 per cent and the NDP 14 per cent. As well, the NDP's claim to being a mainstream voice of the centre-left has been

CALVERT'S UPBEAT APPRAISAL ABOUT THE NDP'S STATURE IN A POSSIBLE REALIGNMENT WILL STRIKE MOST LIBERALS AS ECCENTRIC

longed in recent years by significant defections. Former Ontario NDP premier Bob Rae joined the Liberal party to run in its leadership race last year, calling for "progressives" to unite by voting Liberal, and denouncing the NDP for subscribing to a simplistic "pervasive sector is bad, public sector is good" instinct. Although Rae lost, Stephen Harper, then the Liberal leader, is widely thought to have considerable appeal with left-leaning voters, especially with his emphasis on environmental policy.

Calvert's comments came as a new book by a former top NDP strategist is stirring up debate among the party faithful about its future. Jeremy Heath left Layton's staff after last year's election to write *Dead Centre: Hope, Possibility, and Unity for Canadian Progressives*. But the way his subtitle hints out hope for wouldn't come under what he calls the "corroded, discredited bulk of the Liberal party." He argues the Liberals have not only abandoned core convictions, they've lost their key electoral base—failing to win a majority of Quebec seats in any election since 1980. His conclusion is that the NDP is better positioned to form the core of a left-of-centre coalition.

Liberals won't be buying that, of course. But the key thing about Heath's book, and Calvert's comments, is not their point about who should lead a coalition of the left. It's the fact that they're in coming. "These are interesting times," Calvert said, "so be a federal New Democrat." Or a Liberal, or even Green, if the feeling that they need to find a way to unite continues to spread. ■

WAR OF THE POPPIES

Afghanistan's illicit cash crop may be the key to finding peace

BY MICHAEL KUEHLER • Last weekend, more than a hundred macadamia-bored anti-poppy soldiers from southern Afghanistan set off a firestorm, backed by NATO soldiers, who must guard the territory from angry farmers. Afghan police hoped to tear up more than 10,000 hectares of Helmand province's poppy crop, part of an eradication scheme ordered by President Hamid Karzai under pressure from the U.S. government. Destroying poppy fields is considered a war crime. Similar efforts last year, Afghan

eradication efforts should unfold without the participation of their troops. Still, they will remain vulnerable to propaganda campaigns by extremists, who use the poppy to foment rebellion. Increasingly, Helmand province's farmers see the poppy as the only way to survive. Increasingly, Helmand province's farmers see the poppy as the only way to survive.

Over the coming weeks, poppies will not be alone from the debate in the House of Commons surrounding Karzai's mission in Afghanistan. Last month, Conservative MP, a former-based, independently funded think tank that advocates learned poppy eradication in Afghanistan for medicinal use, met with MP's in the map up to opening his organization's first Canadian office. It is told that the council's arrival in Ottawa has been so long delayed. Established in 2002 by Naeem MacDonald, a Vancouver lawyer, it has deep pockets and well-connected friends.

The Senate Council's proposition relies on its message: grow the opium eradication bands among rural Afghanistan, where substance farmers often survive on credit based on future poppy revenues. Low crop virtually guarantees continued poverty for the Taliban, saying what flowers call the "bears and marmosets" in rural Afghanistan, they are only picking. Playing Robin Hood, she says, is an attack the poppy-destructors as "appear in the eyes of the local population as the white knights," says Bennett. In place of eradication, Karzai's advisors legal poppy fields, serviced by available labs able to produce the same opium and morphine. The parallel would then be ready for use in drug-poor Afghan provinces for export elsewhere. Farmers, benefiting from fair-trade prices, could use this new revenues to diversify their crops, allowing new crops of the country to get off poppies.

Meet Afghan before growing poppies is wrong—a risk against taxes and the source of a raging addiction problem: both at home and in Pakistan. But eradication makes one cash of those who are already victims of circumstance. It's too bad, then, that opposition from both the Afghan and U.S. governments will likely keep the Senate scheme as an academic as a pipe dream. ■



MANY POPPY Afghanistan have no choice but to grow opium to defray the cost of government

croppers managed to produce more than six million kilograms of opium—a record-breaking year. Helmand alone is said to supply Europe with half of its heroin.

Yet NATO forces, emboldened by a recent than just ineffective—it is dangerous. When, last fall, Canadian troops came under attack in Kandahar province's Paktia and Zhetin districts, many who fought were disgruntled farmers furious over the loss of their poppies, crop hardly enough for the month's dry, harsh soil. The lesson of such attacks is not lost on the Canadian command: who, in a brief for entente with locals, have decided that



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FRIENDS IN WAITING? Blue duo, Calvert (middle) and Layton (right), A merger would be Mackay and Harper.

AFGHANISTAN IS NO OVERNIGHT SUCCESS

"Anyone expecting to see the emergence in Afghanistan within the next several decades of a recognizable, measure democracy capable of delivering justice and revenues to its people is dreaming in the twilight."—A Senate committee report on national security and defence warned this week that Canada must abandon hope for the NATO or get ready to leave Afghanistan as soon as its current commitment ends.



WILL BUSH BOMB IRAN?

Or will the charm offensive that worked on North Korea work on Tehran as well?

BY LITZA CH. SAVAGE

Suddenly it's two down and one to go in George W. Bush's "Axis of Evil." North Korea appears to have a plan to close its main nuclear reactor, the key to its plutonium processing program that four months ago produced its first nuclear test. But the deal it would make back international inspectors, in exchange for economic shipments of fuel and aid. The agreement was part of a package negotiated by its neighbors in Beijing. And, just as suddenly, the U.S. is urged to start bilateral talks about "normalizing" relations with the Communist nation with which it could technically share, through economic sanctions, and removing Pyongyang from the list of "state sponsors of terrorism."

The developments were met with caution all around—the erratic dictator Kim Jong Il formerly engaged on agreements with the Clinton administration in the 1990s. Whether he meets the 60-day deadline to shut down the reactor will be an important early test (for now, North Korea goes to keep its state arsenal intact, estimated at a half-dozen weapons). If Kim does so, he will receive 50,000 tonnes of oil, with another 500,000 tonnes to follow if Pyongyang takes further steps to abandon its nuclear program, and the agreement is negotiated with South Korea, the U.S., Japan, Russia, and China.

The marriage deal came as Washington has been stepping up a military build-up aimed at pressuring another member of the Axis of



WHAT LESSONS will Taiwan draw from the agreement with Xie Jing? That nation's blackmail works? Rush, for his part, doesn't want to leave the free file to his successor, says one expert. 'He believes he has this historic burden to solve this problem.'

End, Iran, to suspend its uranium enrichment program, which the UN believes is aimed at developing a nuclear weapon. European nations have been trying to engage Iran in negotiations, but Tehran has refused to suspend enrichment, which analysts say could reach industrial scale in a year.

The Merin Kanan breakthrough immediately raises two questions regarding Iran: If the Bush administration is prepared to begin normalizing relations with North Korea, Iraq was the third member of the Axis, would it be willing to do so with Iran? And what lessons can Tehran draw from the agreement that it puts to freeze your activities and gather rumors from the international community or that nuclear blackmail works, and you're better off beginning with a war head already in your pocket?

John Bolton, the hawkish former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, immediately criticized the deal as "reckless."

ing for weapons that fall far short of a completely ready-made arsenal of nuclear weapons. "It sends exactly the wrong signal to would-be proliferators around the world," he told CNN. And it's clear that Tehran has been closely watching the North Korean developments. "American officials here said they are trying to do a North Korea," says Akbar Miliani, an Iranian specialist at Stanford University. "They see it as an alternative to Saddam Hussein's formula. They think that what got [Kim Jong Il] negotiations and not the previous as credible nuclear program."

But U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice emphasized that the agreement would work as a step toward ending North Korea's use of all nuclear weapons. "The goal is the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean peninsula," she declared. "This is a good beginning for that effort." And when pressed by reporters to explain why Iran shouldn't see the deal as a sign that negotiations are possible, she said:

BUT CAN SUCH PATIENCE, CREATIVITY and toughness be brought to bear on later years? At the moment, the Bush administration is sending mixed signals. Many of its moves suggest that, contrary to pursuing successful negotiations with Iran, Washington is laying the ground work for a military attack sometime before Bush leaves office.

The USS John C. Stennis, a nuclear-powered surface ship, along with its strike group of surface ships, submarines and air squadrons, is now seeing the Persian Gulf, where another battle group is already deployed. The last time so many American warships converged in the region was in 2003, just before the invasion of Iraq. A third carrier, the USS Harry S. Truman, is expected to arrive in the spring. Earlier this month, a navy admiral, William Fallon, took over as head of U.S. Central Command, which the commander of the U.S. 5th Fleet, Adm. Michael M. G. Phillips, is a member of.



dersee that a job previously held exclusively by army and Marine leaders is suddenly passing to a naval man whose expertise is widely

Meanwhile, U.S. rhetoric about Iraq's involvement with the Iraqi insurgency continued to swell. The U.S. military last week showcased weapons that it said had been smuggled from Iran to Iraq by Iranian special forces. They included precision-missile-fueled air-to-ground piercing explosives, anti-aircraft rounds, explosives, and rocket-propelled grenades. Briefers said they could have led to the deaths of 170 coalition troops.

"Everything is going into place and we will win in the process of going into war," observed retired Air Force Colonel Sam Gardiner, who has carried out war games simulating an attack on Iran. "We've sent a second wave, a second marine amphibious unit, we are sending airside defence units, additional mine-sweepers, a squadron of F-26s—and we've upped the rhetoric blaming Iran for what is happening in Iraq."

The linking of Iran to the Iraq war is more than just another move in the isolationist circuitry, it could allow the administration to argue that military attack on the country is not a new "war" that requires authorization from Congress, but an extension of the Iraq conflict, and that Iran is acting in violation of international law. Adding to the confusion is the refusal by State and other agencies



WOLD THE NUKES The U.S. marshals its might in the Persian Gulf, last week it presented evidence of weapons smuggled from Iran to Iraq. Meanwhile, Ahmedinejad is expected to announce Iran's program for enriching uranium on an industrial scale.

struction officials to answer a question lobbed by a succession of senators, most recently Democratic Senator Jim Webb of Virginia, a former navy secretary. "Is it the position of this administration that it possesses the authority to take unilateral action against Iran notwithstanding a direct threat, without congressional approval?"

Delaware Democrat Joe Baucus, the Senate foreign relations committee chairman, uses another tactic: "Do you believe the President has the constitutional authority to pursue [transit] networks across the border into Israel or Spain?" Rice replied that the President's powers were "broad." She added, "The American people, and I assume the Congress, expect the President to do what is necessary to protect our forces."

Alhazmi's press leader, the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, warned for weeks that Iran would respond to a military attack by targeting American interests around the Middle East and noted that there were plenty of potential targets. "The security concerns will that any large-scale war would be followed by a comprehensive reaction to the invaders and their interests all over the world," he was quoted as saying. And on Sunday, as Iran celebrated the 28th anniversary of the Islamic revolution, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said he would soon issue a major statement, referring to the country's nuclear program. He was expected to announce that Iran had begun installing equipment beneath an oil control derrick at Muscat that will allow it to control uranium on an industrial scale.

Altamirano has vowed that his country will become a "nuclear superpower," and

DEAL, OR NO DEAL. Rice says engaging North Korea in dialogue could rid the country of nuclear weapons. Bolton (upper right) criticized the deal, claiming it sends "the wrong signal to would-be proliferators." Gates (opposite) announced, "We don't plan for a war with Iran."

analysis predict Iran could produce an atom reactor on an industrial scale as early as a year from now. Estimates of when it could have an actual nuclear weapon vary from a few years to a decade—but the intelligence is so poor that no one really knows for sure. Khameenei has put out a letter stating that a nuclear weapon is an Islamic, and has remained in Ahmadinejad's office. But the UN Security Council doesn't buy Iran's assurance that nuclear technology will be used for civilian purposes only, and has demanded Iran stop what the UN believes is progress toward nuclear weapons. Iran has until Feb. 31 to suspend the program or face a resolution up to sanctions.

While it appears that Iran is on the verge of developing nuclear weapons, the Bush administration may not be inclined to see it that way. No one can really be sure how far Iran has actually proceeded or when it might achieve a weapon, and Vice President Dick Cheney has reiterated the famous one percent doctrine—if there is a one percent chance that Iran has nuclear weapons that could fall into the hands of terrorists, the U.S. must act. Bush, meanwhile, gives the impression of adhering to a self-imposed deadline of the end of his term. "The perception is that President Bush really doesn't want to leave this file to his successor, because he thinks his successor, especially a Democrat, would not handle this properly, and may allow Iran to go nuclear," says Abbas Malvi, a fellow at the New America Foundation, a Washington think tank, and author of *The Road of Jews*. "He believes he has the historical burden to solve this problem."

U.S. officials insist that an attack is not

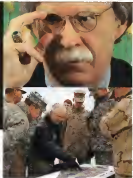
unthinkable. "The President has made clear, the secretary of state has made clear, I've made clear—nobody is planning, we are not planning, for a war with Iran," U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates assured reporters this month. But Nicholas Burns, the undersecretary of state for political affairs, has offered a notable caveat to such claims. "We've been very clear we don't intend to cross the border into Iran, we don't intend to strike into Iran—in terms of what we are doing in Iraq." That qualifier still leaves the nuclear issue, about which Bush has repeatedly made clear that "all options are on the table."

Moreover, some of the administration's plans may depend on the definition of "use." Do surgical air strikes against select nuclear targets qualify as use, which must be approved by Congress? Successive presidents have flexed that aspect of the constitutional division of power. By statute, presidents can order military action for up to 60 days without congressional authorization. And prior to the March 2003 invasion of Iraq, secret air strikes against almost 400 targets in Iraq no-fly zones had begun in July 2002—three months before Congress authorized Bush to use force against Saddam Hussein, and shortly after the President announced from Riyadh during which he reportedly told world leaders, "I have no war plans on my desk."

"I think it's unwise to speculate about the prospect of a U.S. pre-emptive attack on Iran," says Nicholas Goldring, a specialist in nuclear proliferation and disarmament at George Mason University. "I think people should take

that seriously. To the extent that other governments think that is a serious concern, they should be talking with the Bush administration, and they should be doing so now." What would an attack look like? The popular perception that a brief bombing campaign could take out the relevant facilities is most likely false, says Goldring, who has taught military strategy at numerous war colleges. Military action against Iran would likely involve some 400 individual strikes aimed at dozens of suspected targets, but Goldring predicts it would not end there. If U.S. stealth bombers would also hit chemical weapons plants and medium-range ballistic missiles. To reduce Iran's ability to retaliate, military planners would also want to target Iranian airfields, military weapons that could threaten Gulf oil shipping, such as cruise missiles, submarines and other vessels.

Goldring estimates a military campaign would take the night, and result in new American casualties. He also predicts the U.S. would try to do more—such as target the leadership of the regime itself in the belief that a "decapitation" would lead Iranites to rise up and replace their government with one friendly to U.S. interests. "It is hard to believe, after the misguided talk going in Iraq of how American troops would be greeted with flowers and as liberators, but those inside and close to the administration who are arguing for a strike on Iran usually pretend as if they believe the regime in Tehran can be eliminated by air attacks," he wrote in a September report.



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THE LESSON of this work is to gain victory. Don't let Iran could send oil prices soaring and could threaten the U.S. economy. U.S. Navy's Gulf of Persia (top center) to attack U.S. Navy's Joint International efforts to work. U.S. Navy's Gulf of Persia (right) was eventually persuaded to abandon his nuclear program.

For the Century Foundation, Garfinkel estimates that U.S. commandos have been operating in Kurdish areas of Iran since 2004, planning radiation attacks, and have been involved in direct actions in the region of Afghanistan. But the situation, Garfinkel believes, "I don't believe the White House has made a decision," he told McClatchy.

The role of an attack would be huge. It would likely spark retaliation against American interests in the Middle East, and against Israel. Iran could increase its arming of Shi'ite militia in Iraq, Muqtada al-Sadr, head of the Shi'ite March Army, has publicly said that he would attack U.S. forces in such an event. Iran could also cut off the flow of oil in Iraq, or even try to shut down the Strait of Hormuz, a 34-km choke point between Iran and Oman through which most of the oil from the Persian Gulf passes. Presumably, escalation on both fronts could continue. Oil prices could hit \$100 a barrel, even \$150 a barrel.

And Iran's nuclear ambitions could be emboldened by a U.S. attack. "The 19th Israeli attack on the Osirak reactor in Iraq was a tactical success, but from a strategic perspective it was a failure," says Goldhamer. "By attacking, they showed the world nuclear progress, but it's clear from accounts afterwards that Saddam's interest in nuclear weapons and sense of urgency increased after the attack. We would risk exactly the same thing."

ON WASHINGTON AND TEHRAN WALK away from this prospect? There is reason to believe they are trying. On Monday, Ahmadinejad called for negotiations. "We're away from any kind of conflict, any kind of bloodshed," he told ABC's *Cool Afternoon America*.

"I have heard repeatedly, we think that the world problems can be solved through dialogue, through the use of logic and a sense of friendship. There is no need for the use of force." The next day, both the euphoric Iranian crowd and the U.S. objective is to keep the pressure on Iran; in recent talks with the U.S. and say it's not worth the solution," he told CNN.

The sticking point is this: the U.S. wants Iran to stop enrichment as a prerequisite to talks, Iran was suspicious as a potential outcome of such talks. "And lines have been drawn," says McClatchy. "I'm not optimistic." Analysts from across the political spectrum suggest it will take a lot more than attempts at negotiations, which have been tried by the European Union and rebuffed by Iran. It will take talks, pushing a concrete action that would push the already weakened Iranian economy to the brink, and cause—assurances that Washington may be able to make. Unlike North Korea, Iran's population is not starving. Tehran can't be bribed with offers of aid. However, there may be an economic price that is simply too high to pay—on terms have discovered.

Monsieur Gadhafi, Libya's dictator, was persuaded to abandon his nuclear program after years of international effort and crippling sanctions. Argentina and Brazil were humiliated by technical shortcomings enough to allow disarmament to give way to democracy with more peaceful priorities. Like himself pointed out that North Korea had been working on nuclear for perhaps 30 years, and the process takes time.

Iranians have a different concept of time and negotiating, says Saman Vakil, a professor at Middle East studies at Johns Hopkins University. "You don't get into the house and say this is what I want right away. You walk around, you look at a number of things, you ask questions, you're done, you have tea, you ask how the owner's family is, you make conversation, and finally you ask about the carpet you like. You can't be asked to walk away, and then, at the 11th hour, the man will make you an offer," she observed in a telephone interview from Tehran, where she is conducting research. "Anglo Suezian like to sell things right away—cash! Now! Today! They're negotiating position in that everything has to be done today before we move forward. These are important nuances to understand."

The West should also pay less—let the situation to Ahmadinejad. For one thing, the Iranian president lives in a weak office in Tehran—presidential home only 15th or 16th in the power hierarchy—and the president actually has little influence in foreign affairs. Khatami may have found it useful to look out for a while, but has since put him on a short leash. "We in the West have confused Ahmadinejad's powers," says Vakil. "He isn't Man of the Year. He has very little influence in the Iranian system. We have confused him." And his influence appears to be waning. Ahmadinejad was elected on an economic platform, but the Iranian economy is plagued by double-digit inflation and high unemploy-

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CENTURY FOUNDATION; TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CENTURY FOUNDATION; BOTTOM PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CENTURY FOUNDATION



pledge. His supporters endured large deficits in local elections in December, while sanctions have dried up investment and prevented many foreigners from doing business in Iran, crippling the development of the country's oil riches. "Iranians are not waking up in the morning hoping their government is extending sanctions. They are waking up worrying about the price of meat and about jobs," says Molini. "The nuclearisation of what is Iran seems to be a cause, not a symptom."

that does must be a united front against Israel's maddest ambitions. "The most important thing to do right now is to have broad co-operation among industrialized countries to complement the UN action as vigorously as we can, because that will slow down the program and give diplomacy more time to work," says Patrick Clawson, a deputy director of research for the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. Raising the economic costs to Yemen is key—but the U.S. can't do it alone, and so far no one else is willing to cut off all trade.

Working together certainly seems to have been a fact with North Korea. And why did he believe this work's agreement would be more efficacious than the one the Chinese administration decided with Pyongyang in 1984, which was eventually violated, Rice said. "The implementing agreement has the advantage, I think, of being made in real time. It is now a part of it [China, Japan, South Korea, Russia and the United States—all countries that have the right to be involved in decisions at the level not just to make a deal with North Korea, but to make sure that one sticks]." Rice made this point with regard to Russia. Korea has already put up with an agreement that the U.S. regards as a violation. "I don't think you could argue that six years ago China, I want to argue the Chinese—was playing anything like the role that it is playing now as a key member of the six-party talks, nor just hearing those talks, but really as a active member."



In the case of Iran, China, a major mission in that country's oil industry, "without any doubt, to play a role in the West can bring it outside of itself the next step will be a more concerted effort to isolate Iran economically," asserts Peter Brookes, a former deputy assistant secretary of defense for Asian and Pacific affairs under Donald Rumsfeld. "China is getting a lot of oil out of Iran—they are enjoying it, but China knows others are not. But the question is, are they willing to live with a middle Iran?" Russia is also a key economic partner of Iran and supports its nuclear power program. It pushed to select the Security Council as a coalition against Iran, and calls demands that Iran suspend enrichment for negotiations "unreasonable." Russia could be the biggest challenge to a united front.

Clinton's key deal with Iran would have no effect on Tehran security. That was huge part of this week's agreement with North Korea. Rice said "It is an agreement that is also more comprehensive in scope, in that it would establish one of ultimately a mechanism for security and co-operation on the Korean peninsula." Iran is a military power in the region, but it fears American attack. The U.S. could offer a reprieve from these fears. Likewise, Iran could be made sure that others use nuclear weapons could not set off an arms race on the region—just South Asia, Jordan and many other nations follow suit.

THE WEST should pay less attention to Ahmadinejad. His lack of success on the economy has alienated Iranian voters and Khamenei (Dhofiri) has put him on a short leash. "We in the West have overestimated Ahmadinejad's power," says one observer.

scenario would actually reduce Tehran's current military superiority in the region.

Security would also involve the Bush administration abandoning any talk of regime change. The White House appears to have been willing to do so at the case of North Korea. Pressed by reporters to say whether the U.S. would try to topple Kim's dynasty, Rice demurred, saying only that "we're looking for a comprehensive approach to peace and security on the Korean peninsula."

In Iran's case, says Ganderer, "The administration's strategy now appears to be applying pressure with the full spectrum of U.S. power diplomatically, militarily and economically. They are doing it with the expectation that Iran will back down. The problem with the assumption is the regime leader probably believes the U.S. is after regime change. So the Iranians are going to interpret what the U.S. is doing as confirmation that they are after regime change," he says. "So why don't you rely on some other [than the U.S.] to do it?"

What Triffin seems to crave most of all is some sort of legitimacy, a willingness to use the international field, and a recognition of Iran's status in the region. Of course, Washington doesn't want to be seen legitimizing a regime that throws dissidents in jails. But the Cold War taught that it was useful to engage such one's adversaries. "There are arguments that you are selling out the democracy against dissidents in Iran, but that's not the case," says Malini. "Most dissidents are already in Iran and do not know dialogue. When you have it, it tends to lower the tensions and allows NGOs and academics to operate more freely."



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Yee Hong Gives Its Residents A Home

The last place Sue Kai thought she'd be happy was in a nursing home. Like most people of Japanese descent, Kai and her family believed in caring for their elders at home.

So when she was diagnosed in 2004 with breast cancer at age 79, one of her sons quit his job to care for her. But there were major complications, and even with help from the church it became apparent that she needed to be in a long-term care facility.

It was a tough decision for the fiercely independent Kaur, who had lived in the same Toronto house for 45 years, survived internment and relocation after Pearl Harbour, proudly raised a family and worked her way up from executive assistant to office management. "And," she says, "I had misconceptions of nursing homes."

Of course, many people think that going into a nursing home means giving up community and independence. And for those of a different ethnic background, the thought of leaving behind their cultural identity for generic geriatric care can be especially frightening.

Fortunately, there is a new approach to seniors' care that is challenging those misconceptions. The Home Centre for

Geriatric Care is showing Canada – and the world – that it is possible to provide high quality and culturally sensitive services to seniors of any background.

Since Kai moved into the wing of Yee Hong Scarborough Franch Centre reserved for Japanese-Canadians, she's been helped through a few medical emergencies and has slowly regained her health — and a lot of weight, thanks to the Japanese cuisine including Miso soup, Gohan, which is rice, and other specialties.

Now Kai takes part in many of the on-site activities offered at the 250-bed centre. There are morning exercise classes, special news hours with other residents and religious services with a minister from the United or



Geriatric and Palliative Care: House Call

Buddhist Church. She enjoys "Ikabane", which is Japanese flower-arranging and "Suzi-e", which is Japanese brush painting. Her musically-inclined family has become involved in the centre as well. They have put on shows, including Highland dancing by her granddaughters, to entertain residents and show their appreciation for all Yee Hong has done for their aging members. As for 82-year-old Kai, "I am happy to be here. I feel safe."

Kai's story warms Dr. Joseph Wong's heart and reaffirms to the chair and founder of Yee Hong that he was on the right track 20 years ago when he first began his dream of creating nurturing nursing homes for seniors in a language they could understand. At the time, Wong had been thinking about the Chinese seniors he knew and their struggles with isolation in facilities that did not understand them. A Toronto general practitioner and committed volunteer, Wong found that Chinese-speaking seniors in nursing homes wanted to talk with him because no one else could speak the language or understand their heritage. It bothered him to know that in a culture that revered and honored its elderly, "life was intolerable for them. You don't want to live your last years that way."

At the same time, Wong wanted to take a new approach to geriatric care. Too often, he says, couples had to be separated when one spouse suffered a stroke and was placed in a long-term care. He saw no reason why the elderly could not be offered a continuum of care that kept their dignity—and identity—intact.



Yee Hong Kai Lai Chai Centre

Wong gathered a group of 30 Chinese-Canadian friends who shared his vision, and together they launched a campaign to build a geriatric care centre offering culturally and linguistically appropriate care. The group put out a call to the community and thousands answered, donating time and organizing fundraising events.

In October 1994, the first Yee Hong centre—"Yee" meaning peace of mind and harmony and "Hong" meaning good health—officially opened. Located on 1.7 hectares in Scarborough, Ont., it was Canada's first Chinese comprehensive geriatric care centre. Since then, Yee Hong has grown exponentially and is now a blossoming non-profit community with four nursing homes located across the Greater Toronto area.

Yee Hong provides a range of services—from palliative care for the terminally ill to social activities for the healthy and active—serving not just those of Chinese background but also South Asian, Filipino, Japanese and Portuguese. In fact, Yee Hong has become a role model in the geriatric care industry. Accredited by the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation (CCHSA) in 1996, 1999 and 2003, Yee Hong was the inaugural winner of the Ontario Non-profit Housing Association's award for excellence and was twice the grand prize winner of the Ontario Long-Term Care Association's occupational health and safety awards. In December 2006, the CCHSA awarded Yee Hong Full Accreditation status, without any recommendation, to all four of Yee Hong Centres. Full Accreditation with no recommendation is the highest level of achievement in any accreditation survey. The CCHSA also highlighted three Leading Practices: Yee Hong serves as an excellent model of long-term care delivery to culturally specific populations, created best practice guidelines for long-term care nurses, as well as developed best practices for stroke survivors and their caregivers, which led to two new innovations within the post-stroke care day program. The leading practices will be shared with others through CCHSA.

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The Canadian Council on Health Service Accreditation is a national, non-profit organization that drives quality in health care through the accreditation process. Participating organizations examine all areas of their service through self assessment, on-site survey and follow up action for improvements.

"We stress narrative care," says Florence Wong, CEO of Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care. "It's about dignity and independence and trying to keep people as healthy as possible."

Clean, wide corridors are bright and busy with nurses, other caregivers and volunteers (1,600 volunteers are involved in the four centres) as well as assistants with wheelchairs, walkers and canes participating in different activities. Floors are decorated with cultural symbols and brightly-coloured artwork, much of it by residents. Depending on location, daily events include karaoke, aromatherapy, blockjack, Tai Chi and games of mahjong, and are posted in the appropriate language for the floor.

It is Dandiya, the Hindu festival of lights, that Bangalore and Rajalakshmi Ramaswami most look forward to. The Ramaswamis have been part of the Yee Hong community since 2004 when Rajalakshmi's multiple sclerosis meant her husband could no longer care for her. She now lives in the South Asian wing at the Yee Hong Ho Lai Di Wan Centre, and Bangalore spends most afternoons with her. She enjoys the cultural amenities, including the Indian cuisine, and the couple takes part in activities such as Hindu religious services and Dandiya entertainment. "It all makes life more comfortable," Bangalore Ramaswami says. "We don't have to explain to anyone here what they should do or how they should do it. They already know."

Keeping families like the Ramaswamis together is important. "We believe that nursing homes should not be places of isolation," explains Florence Wong. "Our services support and maintain independent living resulting in happier seniors and government savings." It also results in a higher life expectancy. The province-wide life expectancy in a nursing home is 2.5 years. At Yee Hong, it is almost seven.

At age 105, Ting Wan Mark is a great example of this. A survivor of two strokes, Mark is a prized resident at Yee Hong. Greeted whenever she goes by her pet name "Big Sister", Mark continues to take part in the Centre's activities and fundraisers, singing, exercising, sporting new hand-dies and her Chinese New Year's jacket with pride.

Information Supplement

"Yes, some nursing homes are dark and depressing with residents sitting around and not doing anything," says Pauline Tong, president of the Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation. "The Yee Hong philosophy challenges that. We've raised the bar on what long-term facility should be."

Yee Hong's Continuum of Care

- Community-based services include an active seniors program, caregiver dining and adult day programs, including special post-stroke and Alzheimer programs. Yee Hong provides Meals-on-Wheels for the community, too.
- Supportive housing for seniors includes the Evergreen Manor, where rent is geared to income, and Yee Hong Garden Terrace with "Life Lease" units for people 55 and older. There's also a wheelchair accessible Villa Elegance private condo.
- Long-term care is provided in four facilities: Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care Scarborough/McNicoll (155 beds for Chinese), Ho Lai Di Wan Centre (opened in 2002 with 200 beds and an ethnic mix of Chinese and South Asian), Mississauga (opened in 2003 with 200 beds and an ethnic mix of Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese and Portuguese), and Scarborough Finch (opened in 2004 with 250 beds and an ethnic mix of Chinese and Japanese).
- Medical and rehabilitation services are provided at the Scarborough/McNicoll and Scarborough Finch Centres for seniors who live inside and outside Yee Hong nursing homes.
- Mobile clinician and palliative care provides in-home 24/7 services in the North York, Scarborough and Markham area, with a 10-bed hospice planned for the Scarborough Finch location.



Bangalore and Rajalakshmi Ramaswami



Soe Kue



Left: Kim Mo Tsai; above: Tin Chi

Rehab: Making a game of it

They're not your average video game players, but elderly stroke survivors at Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care may be a PS2 virtual reality game's biggest fans.

Allyson Chiu, activation supervisor at Yee Hong, says the recent idea to use PlayStation as a rehab tool was born at a U.S. conference where a "very expensive" virtual reality product encouraged stroke victims to carry out the repetitions and sometimes boring exercises they need to do to help repair damaged limbs.

The technology gave Yee Hong the idea to seek a less expensive option — and why not a kids' interactive game? The game needed to be slow enough to keep movement uncomplicated and appropriate for patients who needed help with their upper limbs, says Chiu.

PlayStation 2's Eye Toy Play 2 game fit the bill. Today Yee Hong's virtual reality program consists of a TV, a PS2 system (under \$200) and the \$60 Eye Toy game. Players carry out 20 uncomplicated activities (such as chopping bread, hitting a tennis ball and wiping windows).



"With practice, the seniors are able to regain some movement in the limbs that were affected by the stroke," says Chiu. The rehab team is now looking for a game that might benefit lower limbs.

The Macrobian Club: Active lives are long lives

For seniors who are healthy and active, Yee Hong offers a wide-ranging program of activities through its Macrobian Club.

Members take part in outings to places such as national parks, galleries and festivals, health seminars and classes in everything from line dancing to acupressure massage to Cantonese opera. The Club also operates a Senior Drop-In Centre where members meet friends, enjoy leisure pursuits and read newspapers and periodicals.

Ky Mei Tsui, the 88-year-old driving force behind the club and its current vice-chair, says more than 4,000 seniors belong to the Club — 120 of whom reside in Evergreen Manor (Yee Hong's non-profit seniors' housing project) while the vast majority come from the general community.

Membership is open to seniors over the age of 55 and costs \$15 a year or \$150 for a lifetime membership.



Our support for seniors continues to grow.

TD Canada Trust has a long-standing legacy of community service and has been a proud sponsor of the Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation for over a decade. We are pleased to support their ongoing commitment to enriching the lives of senior citizens by providing the best health care and services available.

We salute the Yee Hong Centre for continuing to provide dignified, culturally sensitive care for the elderly.

TD Canada Trust



Nursing Home Activities - Jacky Gray Rogers

Fundraising exemplifies the Yee Hong community

Turning a dream like the Yee Hong Centre into reality requires much more than vision — it takes major fundraising. When Dr. Joseph Wong and his friends held their first basement meeting to discuss their dream, they had no wealth, just a strong belief in their goal. But within a few short years, Yee Hong's organizers had turned that around, surpassing all expectations.

Today, the Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation raises \$2.5 million each year to help cover expenses. Wong has been the driving force behind Yee Hong's successful fundraising campaign, using what he learned as chair and governor at the country's top fundraisers, United Way of Greater Toronto and Mount Sinai Hospital.

Funding comes from several major events, including a golf tournament, telethon and walkathon, along with donations from philanthropic corporations, small businesses, professionals and individuals. Perhaps the most renowned fundraiser is the extravagant Dragon Bell benefit gala held every year during the Chinese New Year. What began as a simple grassroots event in 1990 blossomed into one of Canada's foremost social



Sydney Tang

letters to members asking for donations and taking people on tours.

Wellness Foundation president Pauline Tang notes that it's this kind of universal commitment that makes Yee Hong a model of co-operative effort among government, corporations and the community. *



The Hong Phoenix, Mrs. Mei

events of the year, attracting a distinguished list of 1,800 guests including celebrities, executives and community leaders. After 17 years, the Dragon Bell has generated more than \$13 million for Yee Hong's seniors

But Wong is always quick to acknowledge the thousands of "ordinary people" working behind the scenes. For example, Sydney Tang is a non-Chinese client of Yee Hong's rehab centre who, aside from his own donations, raised \$2,000 from contractors at the condo where he lives. Kai Mei Tsui, a resident of Yee Hong's supportive housing and vice-chair of Yee Hong's Macao Club, delivers newspapers to the nursing home residents (to offer his "care, love and friendship"), and is actively involved in fundraising for the Foundation, writing

How to really anger the left

A U.K. columnist chides the movement for backing Saddam Hussein

BY MICHAEL PETROSS • Nick Cohen is the kind of man who uses words like "conscience," "solidarity" and "fascist" without sounding awkward or self-conscious. Despite that as a child growing up in London during the 1970s, he rebelled according to society because his inner Communist parents refused to buy oranges that came from right wing or other who unwelcome countries on the planet—and this included the U.S. and Israel. Regular Soviet critics were also forbidden in the Cohen household, because a non-satire (or porn) was published there. "I come from a land where you can lawfully buying a penis," Cohen writes. "I come from the Left!"

These days, however, many lefties don't want Cohen around. In the eyes, the columnist for the *Irish Independent* magazine the *New Statesman* has become a neo-conservative and a traitor. Cohen's career was to hold a senior post in both the House and the Liberal Left in Britain and Europe and force it to confront its hypocrisy when it comes to following and co-operating with the extreme right—then later as a senior editor at the *New Statesman*—as long as those extremists oppose the U.S. and allied Western democracies.

"Why is the world upside-down?" he asks in his newly published book, *What's Left? How Liberals Lost Their Way*. "In the past, conservatives made excuses for fascists because they mistakenly saw it as a continuation of their democratic right wing ideal. Now, overwhelmingly and everywhere, liberals and lefties are far more likely than conservatives to excuse fascist governments and movements, with the exception of their native far right parties. As long as local racism is white, they have no difficulty opposing them in summer that would have been recognizable to the indigenous left. But give them a foreign far-right movement as it will be different and they don't see it as a distraction and at worst as ally."

Cohen's most incident emerges was leveled at the moral squeamishness performed

by lefties over Iraq. When Saddam Hussein was a U.S. ally in the 1960s, forcing Iraq from his dictatorship was a celebrated cause for the liberal left the world over. The ancient Saddam invaded Kuwait in 1990 and became an enemy of America, this all changed, and stayed that way through the war in 2003. Saddam had become the victim. "Everyone I expected in public life was wildly anti-war and I was struck by how their concern about Iraq didn't extend to the common enemy of all talking in Iraq," Cohen writes. "They seemed to have originated from their newspapers all they had seen was about Iraq and every principle of reason they had once upheld."

Among the many victims of this 1990s amnesia was Kostas Malyia, the Iraqi-born son of a *Requiem of Fear*, which exposed Saddam's Iraq as a totalitarian dictatorship. Malyia was praised by his fellow lefties—world leaders modeled Kuwait and Malyia continued to denounce him. Then Malyia's comrades turned on him.

In 2001, Malyia returned to Baghdad, hoping to establish offices to hold the million of documents chronicling Saddam's

'LEFTISTS ARE FAR MORE LIKELY THAN CONSERVATIVES TO EXCUSE FASCISTIC GOVERNMENTS'

crimes. Malyia sought the help of German archivists, who knew more than most about preserving evidence of their own atrocities under Nazism and Communism. They welcomed Malyia, but the German government forbade them to help. It was feared that such

an act of madness might implicitly condone the "liberal" war that had ended Iraq.

Cohen's arguments are so convincing because he was the oldest article language of the left against Saddam. Saddam was not just an Arab tyrant who stood against the U.S. He was a fascist—an old-school fascist, complete with a massive one-party state, state-owned police, huge statues in every town, and a penchant for genocide. And millions of liberals and liberals around the world rushed to keep this dictator in power.

Many of those who once admired Cohen don't think much of his ideas today. "I have lost some friends," he said *Midnight*. But he also received a lot of support, especially in the *Midnight*. "Because people on the left know there is no argument," he says. He finds this encouraging, and not just because he hopes his book will sell well. He also wants the left to be a movement he can once again support. "I actually believed in solidarity and all that stuff," he says. ■

SERBIA: HE KNOWS WHERE THE BODIES ARE BURIED

Ten years ago, Dragan Djordjevic left special assignment from authorities in the village of Srebrenica to buy his grandfather's land in his backyard because the nearest cemetery was too far away. "I could wait for my grave more often," he says. After that, neighbours started to tell their loved ones there, also filling the cemetery. Now, with 72 bodies in his backyard, Djordjevic has asked officials to repurchase the property by declaring his house a church.



OLD AT HEART

A new poll shows young people are worried about debt and pessimistic about reaching their dreams

THE WEALTH REPORT

BY RICHARD EDELMAN • For younger Canadians, retirement is a clouded, far thing, almost glimpsed through a telescope from the deck of a ship on rough seas. Worried, full of trepidation, they worry they will sooner drown in debt than get to shore. And once landed, beyond the beach and into the jungle, what dangers await? Half-Bogertown pension plans, even RRSPs or the bewildering-fraudulent children?

Yet for older Canadians who have sailed up to the beach and left the sand between their toes, the Isle of Retirement is a happy Newfoundland. Retired Canadians are content with their lots. The middle-aged tell worry that. Then, according to a Maclean's poll that gauged how confident we are about leaving the workplace to embark on our post-work dreams, the distance to your Canadian dream—particularly those between the ages of 35 and 44—are dogged by debt and worried of cash, while their worries and debts are just fear. "We should be concerned," says Greg Lyle, chief economist of Transactive Research Group, the firm that ran the poll of 1,113 Canadians from an online Canada 2000 panel. "Seniors are enjoying their retirement—they're not feeling the pressures that the people in their 30s and 40s are."

Still, more than a quarter of respondents between 35 and 44 say that their retirement dreams are unlikely to come true. "Part of that," says Lyle, "may be due to pessimism about government programs being around for them." But David Fox, author of the 1996 bestseller *Better, But Late: How to Profit from the Coming Demographic Shift*, goes on to stress the importance of the poll. "The older you are, the more optimistic you are because the more knowledgeable you are—that's really the paradox here on all the way along."

Asked whether they'd have enough money to do as they pleased in retirement, 42.6 per cent of respondents said they would. Over half of those 65 and up said they'd be fine. That pattern of diminishing pessimism, with younger Canadians more worried than their senior retirement, reflects the normal

course of life. "People at different life cycles face different responsibilities," says Neil Novina, a professor of political science at the University of Toronto. "By the time some body's in the 35 to 54 age group, they will have experienced the whole dinner—*the wife, the kids, the dog*," promises that treadmill mess of a dream. And it goes on: "They're probably not as myopic," says Novina, adding, "By the time you're old, other things matter—health, for example."

Interestingly, women were twice as likely—28.7 per cent—to be pessimistic about post retirement. And women seem disheartened by the amount how much money they would have once they retire: 59.9 per cent felt strongly they would lack post-retirement cash even, compared to just 35.1 per cent of men—something Lyle chalks up to continued wage discrepancies between the sexes.

You might expect the stress of coming up short for retirement would persuade us to make-to-bake bread and arrange for savings plans or RRSPs. Not so. Almost 70 per cent of Canadians felt strongly that they haven't taken the necessary steps to ensure they'll live out

their dreams—with women almost twice as likely to feel unprepared. Eighteen per cent of those between 35 and 44 said just yet to prepare. Happily though, almost 70 per cent of respondents 65 and over felt they'd done the necessities—perhaps regarding their army's as dire as they seem to younger Canadians still in the work force.

Not surprisingly, over half said they'd be happier with more money. Younger Canadians

Asked what they'd do if they won \$1 million, 34.3% said they'd pay off their debts

were more emphatic about the connection between cash and the capacity to enjoy life: almost 70 per cent of those between 35 and 44 agreed they cover life for peace. But a year from now they may disagree with us: Only 54.8 per cent of respondents between the ages of 45 and 64 said money is a path to greater happiness—followed by just under 50 per cent of respondents 65 and over.

Nothing if not the worried difficulties faced by young Canadians mean that their old thought experiments involving winning or inheriting \$1 million. What to do with such a windfall? One out of four respondents—24.3 per cent—said they'd use the money to pay off debt. Struggling? Borrowed money meant most to the young: 41 per cent of respondents between the ages of 18 and 34 would do so. Some might argue that paying down your credit card bill isn't exactly optimal. But even those things differently. "It is aspirational—it's helping your kids, it's helping your family," he says. "They're really aspirational." In fact, aspirational responses to that million-dollar question must be found with these happy seniors, who are as much more likely, at 20.3 per cent, to spend their money on vacations as they are.

Asked if they expect to actually inherit money within the next decade, over three-quarters of respondents said they do not. And as the thought experiment remains just that, such pessimism may perhaps persuaded Canadians to forego retirement expectations for retirement. Still, the data suggest that a significant number of Canadians—almost a third, in fact—

don't have post-retirement dreams. And the dreams that early 35- to 44-year-olds were just as likely to have a goal for retirement as those 65 and up. The fact that 46-year-olds wanting around climbing about retirement bodies well for planning," says Lyle. "What's important for younger Canadians is, at least, to lay low to achieve those dreams."

What do they actually look forward to in retirement? A little more than 40 per cent say travel, 31 per cent say more to relax. These 65 and up were more likely to want more time to golf, go play tennis. But what's interesting is what those who are already retired are actually doing: 25.3 per cent more enjoy the time retirement offers just to relax. Women were more likely, at 30 per cent, to enjoy spending time with family, as compared to just 24.1 per cent of men. Only six per cent of men said they look forward to starting a new career—double the number of women.

Should Canadians be dreading or two ways from retirement feel good about how positive their retired means and cash appear? "Yes—and no. It's easy to forget that in the late 1970s and early 1980s, poverty among seniors, and particularly among older women, was the political issue of the year." It's been one of the great triumphs, finally, of Canadian society that we've brought to many people up to the standards of living of our retirement," says Lyle.

Almost a quarter of respondents, or 21%, said they're pretty sure that they won't be able to live out their dreams in retirement

Though not all older people today are immune to the worries of youth, Canadians have lived from schemes such as income support, Old-Age Security and the Canada Pension Plan, says Fox. "Twenty-five years ago, you wouldn't have seen nearly so much optimism in the 65-plus group." But, he continues, the younger group should be "informed—and wary." While many older people today enjoy good pensions, changes are on tap to defined benefit and defined-contribution plans put, Post says, "the risk right back on the individual and the private sector now—that will increase poverty among seniors." ■

Celebrating the RRSP miracle

Canada's last great asset-based social policy was a major national achievement, 50 years ago

BY PETER SHAW-TAYLOR • The biggest in the 1957 federal budget was the removal of a 30 per cent tax on cash, pay and drawing. But all agreed in the first budget of the St. Laurent government was the introduction of what Liberal finance minister Walter Ulster called a "registered retirement saving" (they know it as the RRSP).

From humble beginnings, the annual RRSP deduction has become a February ritual for millions of Canadians, that is celebrated as a sign of the state's view of retirement. It is the chief of all our one policy options, the birth of the RRSP should be considered a major watershed in Canadian history, on par with the opening of the West. The past half-century has been quite a ride for an idea once regarded by a candy tax.

"The RRSP is not just another program," says Tom Answorthy, chair of the Centre for the Study of Democracy at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., and a former policy guru in the Trudeau government. "It is a special policy because it has an important set of values behind it." Hence the RRSP is an example of asset-based social policy, distinct from income support programs such as welfare.

"The RRSP creates a government incentive for people to save to displace their own property and wealth. It is the essence of the middle class." Answorthy places the RRSP as the past three of great Canadian asset-based social policies such as the distribution of Crown land (rental income) to poor in Ontario and the Prairie during the 19th and 20th centuries, plus the Warrent Charter of the late 1940s, which provided education and facilitated home ownership for returning soldiers.

The RRSP certainly didn't start off as a history-changing policy. In 1957, Plan's was merely responding to the lobbying efforts of doctors and lawyers who, as self-employed professionals, were unable to make tax-deductible pension contributions. This first retirement saving was very narrowly defined with a maximum value of 2,000 per year. It wasn't

until the 1970s, when baby boomers started thinking about retirement savings and the bubble began to grow, that RRSP's really took off. Now February has become a season of RRSP ads and anxieties.

That year, approximately 19 million Canadians will contribute an estimated \$3.1 billion to their RRSPs. According to the federal projections, Ottawa will forgo \$1.6 billion in tax revenues due to RRSPs. In 1957, Plan's figured the cost to the Treasury would be no



THE ST. LAURENT GOVERNMENT CREATED THE RRSP, BUT IT WAS UPSTAGED BY A CANDY TAX

more than \$44 million. The growing popularity is due to the simplicity and flexibility of RRSPs for asset planning purposes, says Adrian Mouton, a financial planner in Vancouver. "Nothing else comes close," he says. "You can put just about anything you want into an RRSP and you get an immediate deduction for tax purposes." To take the pressure off public pension programs, Ottawa has recently broadened RRSP rules so that it is now possible to hold undervalued foreign investments as well as exotic items such as gold, hedge funds or even your own mortgage in an RRSP.

In all this a good thing? Monica Townson, a research associate at the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, warns the wide-spread aspect of the RRSP's evolution. Asset-based social policies (people who have had to come to terms with the obvious: They're good at retirement rules from low-income earners suggest to her that RRSP tax deductions are simply subsidies for the rich. "This is a transfer from investment taxpayers to people at the upper end," Townson says.

Yet Answorthy is unrepentant in lauding the RRSP and encouraging grassroots-based social policies. "We should be getting people out of the welfare trap and socializing in their values of planning and saving," he says. "Becoming an owner is a very powerful instrument for breaking people out of poverty." ■

Almost 70% of respondents 65 and up felt they'd done the necessities to prepare for their retirement

While 20% felt strongly that they haven't prepared

Almost a quarter of respondents, or 21%, said they're pretty sure that they won't be able to live out their dreams in retirement

While 20% felt strongly that they haven't prepared

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING I'VE LEARNED ABOUT MONEY...

Maclean's asked famous Canadians for their financial insight. Here's what we know for sure.

THE FINANCIAL REPORT



Money isn't like it once was: many quantify, even harder to attain, and easy to dispose, but at no stage in its pursuit, useful though it is, is money as important as good health and luck, peace of mind, a personal relationship, various cultural attainments or a good reputation.

—CONRAD BLACK, former CEO, *Hillier International*

'Spend less than I earn'

—SHERY COOPER, associate VP BMO Financial

My mother always said "If you save your pennies the pounds will take care of themselves." I learned to be careful from her. I've always been generous but practical, always going to the thing I like best, but they're two years old. I they disappear with but wear them to death. I will give my friends and family but know how my lunch.

—DENISE DUNLOP, former president of *Sony Music Canada*

Photo: © [unreadable] / [unreadable]



I think my biggest lesson on wealth is how great the feeling is to be able to do all those things you feel a duty to do. The idea of your family, support worthy causes, help make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate. However, this is followed closely by the unbelievable numbness of the person who says suddenly and your person, someone made, of themselves through the Internet.

—CALVIN ATEY, founder of *Rocking.com Entertainment*

I had a reasonably comfortable childhood, but when I got married and was out on my own I was poor as a church mouse. I had to work seven days a week just to pay the rent and the food. So I've learned it's nice to have money. I wouldn't say that I've pampered myself, but I certainly don't squander it.

—ALLAN SLAUGHT, *Standard Broadcasting founder*

As I've told my children many times, I don't believe in knowing what wealth can give you, but I believe in the drive to get there with our hands given. I've seen too many people who never achieve anything because they've been handed large amounts of money, which takes away the very drive and incentive that gives you the self-confidence to succeed. I never wanted to risk any kind of that vital ingredient of self-confidence.

—PETER MUNN, founder and chairman, *Barrick Gold Corporation*

It's what power is. Collectively we have the power to move money around and it is our obligation to make sure people do not starve, and have a better quality of life.

—OLIVIA CHOW, *NDP MP*

If you've got a good educational opportunity, however. Evaluate it carefully, as you would any investment, but more often than not, you'll get a healthy return.

—SEANAN O'DRISCOLL, *Canada AM co-host*

'Once it's spent, you can't get it back'

—CAROLYN KINKETT, *Liberal MP*



'The first thing I learned about financial management is that there is always plenty more to learn'

—MIKE WEIN, professional author



I've spent a life being a financial social worker. I manage other people's money. Some people never learn how to give, they just keep giving it till they're in their grave. That's a disconcerting realization I've seen in people.

—MILTON WONG, chairman, *HSBC Investments (Canada)*



—DOUGLAS COUPLAND, author (*JPod*, *Generation X*)

What I have learned about money, from being in the United States for the past two decades, and the rich and poor, is in inverse proportion to need. That is, the people who argue most for things like tax breaks are the people with the most money, and the more money they have the more strongly they'd like about them on their money—even though, of course, you'd think that someone with a billion dollars wouldn't care two beans about what their cash flow was. They have a billion dollars! I still haven't figured this one out.

—MALCOLM GLADWELL, author (*Sticks* and *The Tipping Point*)



—MARY LAWSON, writer (*The Other Side of the Bridge*)



Not to let double-lose. I was 13 and my sister, Emma, to whom the family moved to Canada in 1973. My father, the novelist Mark Twain, took us to the Royal Bank in Montreal's Winter Garden to exchange the English pounds we'd saved as pocket money and deposit them in Canadian accounts. Very exciting it was. And the teller, my father said, to my sister, Emma, and (a favorite race of his) offered her double or nothing as a coin toss. She called heads and it landed tails, but before any money was it my father walked in and flipped it. So my sister doubled her money. Then it was my turn and when he offered double or nothing on my \$2.50 GMP about \$25, then, a fortune for a kid! I figured I couldn't lose. Called heads. The coin landed tails, but my father didn't flip it and grinned as he took all my money. I've now been back to it more than half a century and it was a really fun time to play, and a lesson learned.

—BOB BICKER, writer (*This Is My Country*, *Which Years?*)

'Money is like love. To paraphrase Joni Mitchell, you don't know you've got it until it's gone.'

—SARAH GOWDY, novelist (*Helpless*, *The Remains*)



—DON CHISHOLM, CEO co-owner *Indoor Soccer Rink*, *Indoor*

'It ain't everything'

It's important to have enough to live on, but it shouldn't be the end all and be all. There are two reasons in our lives that we always are, we are in the league if we could put it (money) as well as we could have enough. Money really doesn't bring you happiness and solve your problems. At the end of the day, if money is the most important thing, then your priorities are messed up.

—J.P. RICCHIARDI, GM of the *Toronto Blue Jays*



The first thing I learned about money was that the easiest thing in the world for anybody to do is not pay you once you've done the work. The second thing I learned about money was very important to me that it looks like someone in your generation is spending more money than they have, they probably are, and it's probably yours. Thankfully our problems are way in the past and we are surrounded by people we love and trust.

—JIM CUDDY, singer/songwriter, *Blue Rodeo*



When I reached an adult age from the death of a family friend one, to find that change in my hand was the least of the four. There was an amount of money that I couldn't have been able to have 10 more minutes to create one more memory with that person. It taught me that money is no replacement for time spent. I personally plan to drink deep life's pleasures, set up my children, enjoy watching them flourish, and leave this world with a zero balance. And possibly flowers.

—SAMANTHA REE, correspondent on *The Daily Show*



Never overestimated myself and have myself each poor investment are great, but if you invest too much of your bankroll it could affect your earning power if a better investment comes along. Life, maybe a billionaire banker who decides he wants to sit with the world's best at a poker table.

—DANIEL NEGRUanu, former world poker champ

'I learned very early on that really good friends don't necessarily give really good advice. A good financial adviser is worth their weight in gold.'



—MIKE PINCALL, *CLUBHOUSE*, Toronto Area local coach



My guiding philosophy about money is not to worry about it, to enjoy it for what it can give you, your family and your friends, to give back in a way to those who need it more than you do, and to not let it prevent shape your life's dreams.

—MAUDE BARLOW, national chairperson of *The Council of Canadians*



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Smart move

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Millions of us dream of making a radical shift at mid-life, but wonder if we'll have the money, the energy and the will to follow through. It's not easy to change directions so dramatically when most others are thinking about slowing down, but here are four Canadians who took the leap, with no regrets. **► THE WEALTH REPORT**

Bernie Clement doesn't look like your stereotypical private car dealer. He's slim, and his haircuts look expensive. So does his dark suit, a corporate cut.

But that response hit me raising a heavy toll on the 42-year-old, Chicanos boarder: 11 flights last year and moved his family 15 times in 18 years. The revelation hit him as he was getting into a school in Dallas, after being made director of regional sales for the American southwest. "My wife [Joanne] was back in Canada. And I remember I walked there, to the door, and I opened it, and that's when a lit me. I've been doing this every since," says Miki [Madison, now 18], and Dallas, now 36, is going into a place where they know no one. We have no hopes. We were vagabonds." It was time for a change.

Now Clement is standing inside his new Chrysler dealership on Winnipeg's Pembina Highway, pointing out recent changes: He's moved an enormous shed to the back lot, and cleared a row of trees, making the dealership visible from Osborne Street, behind. He has revamped the inside, too. His office is out front in the showroom, and the Chrysler brand is everywhere. He's got a new logo, website, and two keys. "It's all new."

annual earnings are up 182 per cent. He calls the "new" Tumblin Chrysler Dodge Jeep one of the fastest-growing dealerships in Western Canada, and has plans to open several more, building a little Chrysler empire on the prairie. Lingering doubts have been allayed by his business success in Winnipeg. But his doubts aren't always "The Lone Ranger" ones, Clement says, "there were times when you sit up there, and you think

As a retired head of a multinational corporation, you'd think Arnold Park would be enjoying a leisurely descent in the shade of his golden pine-tree. Instead, the 62-year-old former CEO of McCain Foods (Canada) has taken on a task that at least rivals the challenge of steering the Canadian arm of the world's largest purveyor of french fries. Over the past 10 years, he and his wife Sandy have adopted three babies from China's notorious orphanages—thereby drastically shortening their lives, as well as those of their “new” children. See the [bottom](#).

Seniti, 9, is a precocious and analytical student with a knack for basketball. Her adoptive sister Miley, 7, is more artistic and laid-back. The youngest, Lily, 1, came to the Park in 2004. "She was born the Year of the Monkey and tigers," a breathless Park says from his home in New Milam, N.E. "She is a good child but mischievous! My God."

There are certainly quarks in the couple's newfound domestic bliss, and in their redesigned family tree. They have already made the personal journey several times, having raised four of their own children while Park waited his way up to the top of McCain. They have eight grandchildren, five of whom are older than their adopted sons.

[illegible]

The shadowed infants covered their eyes.

lives in orphanages and, if not adopted, are sent back to their villages at the age of 14 to fend for themselves. Not surprisingly, China is the world's go-to spot for potential adoptive parents. According to Children's Bridges, an average of 12,000 children are adopted from the country every year—including some 1,600 by Canadian families. To its credit, China has one of the most efficient foreign adoption systems in the world, according to child welfare advocates.

Part is the president of the board of the Children's Bridge Foundation, the Canadian agency that organizes all those of the Part adoptions, a job that requires him to hit up the myriad foundations led on he knows for donations. It's also weird being little-deep in diapers at a time when most people his age are worrying about their golf swing. In a second shot at parenthood so's nearly as fought as one's might think. It's actually much more relaxed," he says. "Younger couples must just to make their own, but now we don't have that pressure. When you're young you want everything. By this age, it's been there, done that. You really don't want any thing else." —Martin Peterson

Rider in the Storms

Lyons: Gould used to joke that she would never let her blue-crazed husband, Lindsey, spend his days aimlessly blong around Winnipeg. Since selling her business empire in 2006, the 53-year-old has spent most days riding—she pedaled 25,000 km in her past decade—but every ride has a destination, and a cargo.

Last year, Gould sold Olympia Cycle & Ski, a Winnipeg-based clothing and apparel store with franchises across the city, as well as in B.C. and Ontario, to become a bike courier for a local company, Sierra Connector Service. Why and how not, Gould was once part of the national speed skating team. He started eye-lining as a way to train during the off-season. Instead, he fell in love with biking, switched sports, and eventually represented Canada at the 1992 Olympics in Munich.

In 1975, he opened the Olympia flagging on Portage Avenue, in Winnipeg. By the late 1980s, he had built a small empire of high end ski and bike shops. For the past year, however, Gould the business owner has given way to London's bike course.

The idea for a career change came to him on a hike near San Francisco to Parkland three years ago. "Not that I was anxious to get out, but as a business owner you're always thinking about an exit strategy." Could he do an internet diaper, and wanted to sell Olympia while he was "young enough to do something like this." But in 1998, of the year, this means having to make a decision—that

A Hidden Harvest

A few years ago, Wayne Dunn approached Joe Clark about buried treasure in Ghana's hardwood trees, worth millions, submerged in Lake Volta. "I promised Joe my plan wouldn't involve me and I in sickle and shippers carrying chainsaws into the forest," laughs Dunn, a B.C. based businessman.

At the time, the former prime minister was still in the House of Commons. But after trying in vain to resuscitate the Progressive-Conservative party and watching it merge with the Canadian Alliance over his objections, he was ready to leave politics for good in 2004. After snapping down, he became heavily involved in election observation work in Africa and then, in December 2005, at age 66, he founded Clark Sustainable Resource Development, with Derek as president and CEO.

By last spring, after five visits with local officials, Clark had hammered out a deal with Ghana's government and the Volta River Authority, which controls the man-made lake that spans 8,335 sq km. And now, having secured some start-up cash from Goldman Sachs and several other large investors in

work, Clark and Co. plan to start cutting and dragging trees to shore later this year. The Mill Day, C.C.-based company, which equips men from the oil and gas industry adapted to harvest the 60 cnc species on Lake Volca's underwater forest—including magnolia, osham and ebony—some as tall as 100 feet and 16 to 18 in. diameter, rooted 170 feet below the surface. After 40 years underwater, all that hardwood has been preserved from the deleterious effects of air and insects.

Aside from the potentially massive cash windfall, the African governments also were able to remove for safety since Lake Volta is a high-traffic transport route and dioxins do every year when their boats hit trees just below the surface. (IFCSD is successful in Ghana, similar opportunities exist in South America, Asia and other parts of Africa.)

When asked how much his company can expect to profit in Ghana, Clark sidestepped instead sharing a story about what the World Bank said when asked how much Lake Volta's underwater forest is worth. "They said zero, because you can't get them out," says Clark, with a laugh. "Whatever the value is, it is several times more than zero." —John Ivers

not just cold he's brawling. As a courtesy, he's racked up his share of bumps and bruises. That's nothing new to Gould, who has broken his collarbone five times and more broke his back. In fact, on the night he was inducted into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame, in 1997, he was wearing a body brace.

Nevertheless, Gould sets out at 6, every morning, on a single-speed Surly Kona Monkey he won for placing first in a Wisconsin bike race last year. He makes his last 5 p.m., averaging 131 km between, he barely has time to refill. He is at the wheel of his bike out into sufficient woods on commission, riding it of every last, and 180 of the day. "I'm not doing it," Gould says. "I'm out there." —Nancy Mandelkern

delivery around 5 p.m., averaging 125 km over the day. In between, he barely has time to scarf down a meal. He is at the wheel of the dispatches, who harks out into various radio code. He works on commission, taking home two-thirds of every sale, and \$80 or \$100 by the end of the day. "I'm not doing it for the money," Gaid says. "I'm out there doing what I love." —Nancy Mandelst

THOU SHALT DRIVE NONE BUT LUXURY VEHICLE

There's no stopping some people. When Pastor Randall Radic of Reem, Calif., started giving a new BMW, his congregation soon learned how paid for the car by selling their church. But the crafty clergyman, who's already close to six months in jail, will soon be out. In exchange for prosecutors dropping further felony charges, he'll testify against a climate accused of murder. Radic pretended to be a pastor from the accused man's own church.



Talefilo: With plagiarism running rampant, some are questioning the value of a degree.

CHEATING? WHO US?

Most universities prefer to keep quiet on the topic of academic fraud

our academic integrity policies, then it's an issue that needs to be dealt with," says Alan Harrison, provost at the University of Calgary. "My view is that it starts with the senior academic officers at the university, which means that it really starts at my door."

But these schools question the prevalence of misconduct among their own students.

'UNIVERSITIES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY...TO ADDRESS CHEATING OPENLY AND HONESTLY'

and argue that they are not solely to blame for the rise in cheating. "It's very concerning [to think] that universities alone are the place where [cheating] is focused and will be cured," says Karen Flachock, principal of Queen's University in Kingston, Ont.

Instead, critics often point elsewhere. Governments, for example, may be partly to blame because funding cuts to public institutions have impeded students' financial situation, creating large class sizes, which make cheating more difficult to catch. "The enabling of professors to spend undivided time with students is largely a function of funding shortfalls," says Peter George, president of McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont. "Professors themselves may be partly at fault for

Refusing to report suspected cheating, Pomeroy, as well as primary and high schools, may also be responsible for not establishing a strong sense of academic honesty in young people. "Students come to university with a certain set of values that have been instilled in them over the years," says Hirschcock, adding that students often lack an understanding of what counts as cheating. The Internet also fuels some academic misconduct, they say. And increasing pressure and cost pressures for good grades and jobs compel students to cheat. "That's not a university problem," Hirschcock says. "That's a society's reality."

To commit fraud, McManis, Calgary and Queen's point to their academic integrity offices, and efforts to teach students about unconscionable cheating and its consequences. McManis, which this week will release its annual academic integrity report as a measure of the university's efforts, says that increased vigilance has resulted in more reported cases—362 violations last year from 263 a year earlier. But, as University of Toronto ethics professor Joseph Heath notes, "Universities are not doing enough."

Hickcock agrees: "Universities have a responsibility like any other group in society to address [cheating] frankly, openly and honestly," she says. "Constantly, a university has to look at the way it teaches, the kind of environment it creates, the expectations it places on students." George adds, "It's got to be the root of integrity and trust in our whole society," and says the

some sort of scrutiny and accountability standards that corporations and governments endure. "I would be devastated to think that some day a credential from any of our universities would be subject to some kind of doubt because of an epidemic of cheating that went unchecked."

Just before press time this week, Claire McKenna, president of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, which represents post-secondary schools across the country, sent a letter to Mandelkern questioning the seriousness of the problem. "On behalf of Canadian universities" the association claims that evidence of fraud among students is inconclusive, and that not all types of cheating are equally serious. ■



SCHOOL CUTOFFS: MALE STUDENTS SENT HOME

Twenty schoolboys enrolled for only three days at Kilian Boys High school in eastern Kenya were told to leave until they get circumcised. A letter to parents said, "Please do the needful within two weeks and let your son report back to school immediately he is well." Circumcision is not compulsory at the school, but the principal believes the boys would make their circumcised fellows uncomfortable "in the condition they're in."

'I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TALENT OR THE SAME SKILLS AS SOME GUYS, BUT I TRY TO DO MY JOB' —COLORADO AVALANCHE DEFENCEMAN **KAIIS SKRASTINS** ON BEATING TIM HORTON'S RECORD

KUMAR MANGALAM BIRLA THE RISE OF INDIAN INC.

With his Aditya Birla Group's takeover of Novartis, the world's leading producer of rolled aluminum products, **Kumar Mangalam Birla** proudly brands his company's—and his country's—influence in global business. Monday's announcement that Birla owned Hindalco Industries had purchased Novartis, a sign of an \$8-billion Alcan Inc., for US\$6 billion, also marked Birla's conglomerate arrival in the global Fortune 500 companies. The goal was achieved two years ahead of a target date Birla had set. The deal comes two weeks after another Indian conglomerate, Tata, bought the Anglo-Dutch steelmaker Corus Group for US\$10 billion, making Tata one of the world's top steel producers. Although investors feared that both groups paid too much for their foreign acquisitions, the industry at large dropped the financial panic to note that the latest Asian economic tiger has earned blood and oil blood in North America. "Indian companies are on the prowl."

KARLES SKRASTINS MR. DEFENDABILITY NEVER MISSES A GAME

The Colorado Avalanche player hasn't missed an NHL game in seven years—a remarkable feat given the 32-year-old Latvian makes his living blocking 160 jerseys' slaps. On Feb. 4, **Karles Skrastin** played his 407th consecutive regular season game, breaking the record for a defense man previously set by **Tim Harnan** in 1984. "I don't have a lot of talent or the same skills as some guys, but I try to do my job," says Skrastin, who last year blocked 207 shots, second in the NHL. His only glitch was a shoulder injury that kept him out of game back in February 2000. Skrastin hasn't missed a start since, even when he broke a bone in his wrist, or when he had a wedding later. He's known for not complaining and that his coaches never think of pulling him. Not bad for a guy nicknamed "Scotch."



ELLEN PAGE HER AGE OF IMPOSSIBILITIES HAS ALREADY PASSED

The same week it was almost out of the Genie—fear of five best picture nominees in Toronto—Tough Canadian cinema showed signs of life in Europe. The Berlin Film Festival showcased movies by **Sarah Polley** and **Guy Maddin**, plus world premieres from **Brace McDonald** and **Giovanna Vianna McDonald**. The *Three Programmes* stars **Ellen Page** as a troubled 15-year-old who first appears naked under a shower curtain in the back of a bus. The *Hollars* stars actress, who played **Kerry Pryde** in the last *X-Men* movie, is growing up fast. In *Hard Candy* (2005), *Literature* and *Spiegel* with anguished implications. And in *An American Crime*, which just premiered at Sundance, she tackles the real-life role of **Sylvia Likins**, an Indiana man imprisoned in the basement by her mother (**Catherine Keener**). Next week's Page movie is, but already her credit list is impressive.

FREDERICK VON ANHALT THREE MEN AND A BARY

It was only a matter of time before another man joined lawyer **Howard K. Stern** and photographer **Larry Fickel** in claiming the *Golden Globe*. **Anastasia Smith's** five-month-old daughter, **Danayon**. The day after Smith, 39, died in a Miami hotel room, **Prince Frederick von Anhalt**, 63, stepped forward, alleging he'd had a decade-long affair with the celebrity life claimed that when the baby was conceived "she wasn't with out of choice, she was without." The *Golden Globe* to screen *Star Zee Zee Gabot*, 30, von Anhalt might have a few kids, but he wasn't born with it. Originally named **Ben Robert** (his wedding, he was an adult when purchased his life by being "adopted" by **Mark Augustus von Anhalt**. In 1958 he earned *Anhalt*, becoming the Hungarian-born carnival showgirl's eighth husband. As for little *Danayon*, von Anhalt says he'll file a lawsuit if either of the other two purposed dads get custody.



THE DIXIE CHICKS AFTER A LONG CHILL, READY TO MAKE NICHE

With the Grammy last Sunday, the *Dixie Chicks* doubled their sales at the controversy that threatened their future nearly four years ago. In March 2005, in the U.S. was touring Iraq, lead singer **Natalie Maines** was on allegations of corruption under deposed prime minister **Thaksin Shinawatra**, but she's being blocked by conservative senior bureaucrats. Thaksin has kept himself in the public eye by meeting with a senior Singaporean politician, aggravating bilateral relations. Maines' emergency in the south continues. And Bangkok's new airport, which the generals banned her to serve to show it was business as usual in Thailand, is on the verge of breaking down. Successive decisions to retain the king, and to democracy quickly, and for a man with his hands full, that can't come soon enough.



SIRAYUD CHULANONT NOT SO EASY TO FIT

Thailand's "warrior prince moment" has had a rough go months. Appointed by military coup leaders to lead the country last September, **Sirayud Chulanont** launched an inquiry into allegations of corruption under deposed prime minister **Thaksin Shinawatra**, but she's being blocked by conservative senior bureaucrats. Thaksin has kept himself in the public eye by meeting with a senior Singaporean politician, aggravating bilateral relations. Maines' emergency in the south continues. And Bangkok's new airport, which the generals banned her to serve to show it was business as usual in Thailand, is on the verge of breaking down. Successive decisions to retain the king, and to democracy quickly, and for a man with his hands full, that can't come soon enough.

JAN HUDSON, JR. CRAZINESS RUNS IN THE FAMILY

Three seasons of *Love's Labor Lost* would dislodge the toughest of athletes, but not **Jan Hudson Jr.**, who walked away with Canada's first Olympic silver medal in the *Alpine World Championships* last weekend. Despite a lack of funds from a stock bear away from lucrative opportunities, Hudson says, "I never could think of a reason why I should stop." It took just one minute, 45.40 seconds for the 25-year-old Californian to make history in the men's downhill, just behind Norway's **Alfred Brenden**. A fierce desire to beat the odds made the family the champion star was only to make it old when his father, **Jon Sr.**, led the family on a daring escape from Cochrane, Alberta, in one piece, following the *Adidas* in a hole in the snow. The family spent years in Germany awaiting Canadian visas, finally settling in Alberta. "I guess he was crazy," Jon Jr. says of his father's exploits. "But I'm glad he was crazy because we ended up in Canada."



BERNARD DRAUMILLER BOTH RISKY NOW

After two decades as a TV reporter, **Bernard Draumiller** learned last week how it feels to be thrown to a pack of media hounds who've snatched blood. On Feb. 7, *Bleed* Canada's chief political correspondent in Quebec's National Assembly announced that he'd run for the Parti Québécois in the next election. *Bleed* Canada was not amused and neither were the protest supporters. They said that Draumiller had asked them on their campaign campaign all the while he was negotiating with the PQ. Draumiller claimed he'd declined an initial offer to run and felt free to conduct a major re-entrance with PQ leader **André Boisclair**. Afterward, he said, he changed his mind and opted to join the separatist party after all. But that didn't cut much ice with his former colleagues. "How long have you been a *Piquette*?" asked one reporter, in referring to some undisciplined abuse. Draumiller's contrived fellow journalists were surprised at his personal politics. "Would he have let money be a distraction," said one because of colleague.



TOP: KUMAR MANGALAM BIRLA; MIDDLE: KARLES SKRASTINS; BOTTOM: JON HUDSON JR.; RIGHT: BERNARD DRAUMILLER

media

Harnessing poster power

PAGE 11

books

Stein on Harry Potter

PAGE 24

film

The Jude Law phenomenon

PAGE 26

bazaar

Don't call them prettier parties

PAGE 28

fashion

High on thigh highs

PAGE 36

help

Babyproofing a marriage

PAGE 40

media

In Adolf Hitler the funniest man on the world? You'd think that one of the most vicious mass murderers of all time would be lost to all but comedy tape class, say, members-in-law. But with a slew of Hitler jokes on television and in stand-up comedy, a new look on Hitler jokes, and a new hit comedy film from his native country, don't look for one conclusion to draw: Hitler comedy is in.

Mein Führer: The Truly Truest Truth About Adolf Hitler, a new film by writer-director David Levis, has gotten lots of publicity as the first German movie to make fun of Hitler. The film shows Hitler (Jürgen Schneider) losing the war and losing his grip, suffering from impotence and insanity. His advisors hire a Jewish actor (Ulrich Mühe) to teach the Führer comedy is in.

HITLER IS HILARIOUS

He's never as like a competent dictator again. The actor gets his revenge on Hitler by making him down in a jiggling neck and oval around on the floor. Another scene is reminiscent of a gag in the Marx Brothers' *Monkey Business*: Hitler's blubber makes a mistake while drinking him, leaving him with only half a prosthetic. Though the film has an dark and serious moment, it's more David Levis (then Schneider's) last.

There have been Hitler comedies before, of course. The very first one was Charlie Chaplin's 1940 film *The Great Dictator*, where the comedian-director played Hitler caricature Adenoid Hynkel. But that was made in the United States, which didn't experience Nazi rule, so were later Nazi-bashing comedies like *The Mole People* (1956) and *The Producers* (1967). *Springtime for Hitler* (1971) and its musical remake *Comedians* (1989) did experience Hitler's final hour, but usually made light of the experience. But now that Germany has some politicians of misdeeds who were born after Hitler died, there's an audience that doesn't consider itself barred by association with Germany's past. And this audience seems to enjoy laughing at their country's dark history. *Mein Führer*'s opening weekend made it Germany's No. 1 movie.

If Hitler comedy is starting to become popular in Germany, it's absolutely thriving in other parts of the world. In North America popular culture, the word "Hitler" ranks up there with "Cleveland" in the past tense.



of these comedy words. Stand-up comics and sitcoms make jokes about Hitler as a matter of course. Larry David's art includes a joke that he gets "The Thing" I admire about Hitler... "It turns out that David likes the fact that Hitler had a mustache, while Seth Greenman does a joke about Hitler's hairbrush being discovered on Eisenhower's flight. The network of the *Saturday Night Live* has an ongoing fascination with Hitler, ever since the second season when Homer Simpson thought the capital of North Dakota was "Hitler" (confusing him with Minnesota). The creator of the series, Matt Groening, a self-proclaimed progressive, has said repeatedly that he loves Hitler jokes. But in spite of his objections, the staff keeps on writing them; an episode this January featured a cardboard cut-out of Hitler in a library with a caption that said: "Before I was a Nazi leader, I was a Nazi reader."

Other, more serious films of Hitler comedy have taken off. Two Europeans (one in Holland, the other in England) started an *Adolf Hitler* fan club, where people send in photographs of cats that resemble the mustached mass murderer. They even have a contest for them: "Hitler's. Click on the site and you'll find adorable photographs of cats with strategically placed black spots that look like Hitler mustaches, or something out of your nose in a bag. *Mein Führer*, the editor of the site, tells Maclean's that he finds humor in the irony of the fact that the muggle who puns like a wordbook and covers your clothes in enough hair to keep them Reynolds is wigs for the rest of his life looks like the most evil dictator in history."

It is in bad taste to make jokes about Hitler? Of course it is, that's one reason why it's done, that bad taste is an important part of comedy. But that doesn't mean such jokes are necessarily out of bounds. Stephen Kruman, general secretary of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, criticized *Mein Führer* as being unkind and therefore "unnecessary and even dangerous." But he immediately added that he has no problem with Hitler comedies in long as they're good ones. "Chaplin wasn't Jewish and he succeeded, he did a great job with *The Great Dictator*."

And Hitler comedy, like other ways of making light of serious subjects, sometimes has a serious purpose to it. Dan Leary's latest movie was a comedy about anti-Semitism, the place of Jews in post-war Germany. It's clearly influenced by American anti-Nazi comedies like *The Great Dictator* and especially Ernst Lubitsch's 1940 *The Grapes of Wrath*. That movie, which was released in 1942 and immediately became controversial, portrayed Muslims as villainous.

PEOPLE POST photos of cats that look like Hitler (above) on a website, drawing scenes from the German movie *Mein Führer*. The Truly Truest Truth About Adolf Hitler



ous and evil, but also made fun of its ridiculous aspects. Like Chaplin, Latouche found it absurd that an entire movie would be devoted to the evilist worship of a mediocre man like Hitler, and the movie makes the point over and over again that Hitler, the supposed super man, is nothing more than "a man with a little megalomania."

Though Levy reportedly wrote and shot the movie after test audiences thought it wasn't serious enough about the Nazi terror, he still insists that making a Hitler comedy has a serious purpose in mind of itself: "I don't want to give this cynical, psychological wreck of a person the honour of a realistic portrait," he told *Der Spiegel* at one time, "but the feeling that I must do it with another genre, do it by being able to exaggerate through comedy."

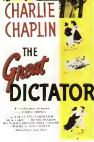
Other makers of Hitler comedies also attribute virulently gay goals to their jokes about autarchic and megalomaniac. Brooks, who was associated with Hitler comedy that he even produced and starred in a remake of *The Big Dick* to be, told *Der Spiegel* that "by using the medium of comedy, we can try to rob Hitler of his posthumous power and myths." If we take Hitler seriously, you could argue, we're already showing more respect than he deserves; the ultimate insult to a megalomaniac is to laugh at him.

There's something to the idea that Hitler comedy is a way of owning Hitler down to size. For one thing, Hitler's own history shows that he basically hated himself, at least when it had anything to do with him. In Nazi Germany, people could and did get thrown in concentration camps for making jokes about Hitler. Last year, a book called *Hitler: The Pig in a Suit* was released in Germany. It was an in-depth study of the Nazi-era jokes about the dictator, jokes that circulated underground as a form of rebellion. Randolph Horne, the author of the book (and director of a companion documentary), explained why Hitler feared himself: "If you laugh about Hitler, you rob him of the metaphysical, demonic capabilities that the post-war apologists attributed to him."

But the books also suggest a more unpleasant side to Hitler-baiting: the many popular jokes about Hitler suggest that many people knew how absurd Hitler was, and yet did nothing to stand back against the Hitler cult that died in the Holocaust. "The Germans were by no means powerless victims of propaganda," Horne said in *Der Spiegel*. "This didn't change the fact that the country was sucked down into a whirlpool of crime in the space of just a few years." In other words,



LARRY DAVID HAS A JOKE THAT AIGINS. 'THE THING I ADMIRE ABOUT HITLER IS...' (TURNING OUT IT'S HITLER'S HATRED OF MAGICIANS)



NEL BROOKS (top left), *The Producers*, 1967 (top right), the 2006 version (left), Danish version of the Broadway play (right), poster for *The Great Dictator*, 1940

while laughter can be a weapon of sorts, it can also be a way of silencing the voice of dissent, as Woody Allen and in Manhattan, when dealing with Nazis, baseball has more effective than letting satire.

Still, Hitler comedy doesn't help us overcome evil, it can at least not evil down to size a little. A problem with some anti-Hitler works is that they can fall into the trap of importing almost superhuman qualities to him. Look at a serious story like Norman Mailer's new novel *The Castle in the Forest*, where the story of Hitler's childhood is literally narrated by devil. It may make sense to view Hitler as a satanic figure, but that adds to his self-declared image, there was nothing Hitler had more than to be portrayed as exceptional and fearsome. Hitler might have been angrier at the way cartoonists portray him—as an idiot, or a lunatic, or a baby cat. Which means that the audience for Hitler comedy are at least putting across their rather's reprehensible comedy to the person who did so much evil. In many ways that's more disturbing than recognizing, but comedy isn't always reassuring. "There is a saying, 'Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it,'" Nave says. "I think the same goes for those who don't laugh at history as well."



CHRYSLER is backing a Pentecostal gospel tour. Bruce Adams sponsored an Orthodox celebration at a Memphis Catholic church.

Come to church. Buy yourself a car.

It started with Christian movies, but faith-based marketing is hitting a whole new level

BY DAPHNA IZHEBNO • Moses parts the Red Sea. David slays Goliath. Queens Esther rescues the Jews of Persia. Rocky Balboa gets back on the right side of a final round. If you think one of these things is not like the others, check out the "Faith-Based Leader's Resource Guide," available free at faithbased.com. On a parchment-like background, splashed with quotes from Timothy and Corinthians, this booklet makes the link between the Bible and office booking here and there of the Bible, offering positive suggestions for serious and study groups. And, to further reinforce their teaching of Scripture, church leaders are urged to show clips from Rocky Balboa, read the theme verses, and offer free tickets to kids who recruit friends for youth group.

Moses Entertainment, the company that has huge success promoting both *The Passion of the Christ* and *The Chosen* of Jesus by weaving the evangelism of religious leaders, created the Rocky guide in an effort to win the movie similar support from the pulpit. *Passion* and *Moses* are both intensely Christian, and their appeal to pastors is obvious. For Rocky Balboa is a secular film, a Stallone culting generally has been built on the same simple rules. Movie founder Paul Lazar calls the new Rocky a "spiritual victory," while not expressly Christian, reflects the kind of moral lessons Jesus would preach: the type of high-value, wholesome film that isn't adequately marketed to the "faith and family" community.

In fact, mainstream entertainment is not so much in church, evangelical pastors have been turning to popular movies to illustrate Christian themes for several years. What's different now is that Hollywood, the dark largely to *Passion*, has clued in to the profit

potential in North American churches and is actively courting religious leaders. Studio execs are turning up at Christian conferences, collaborating with groups like Focus on the Family, plugging the screen potential of movies like *Goodwill Hunting*, the September 20th Century Fox film *East is East* and Fox's *For the People*, a division dedicated to religious viewers, and while Disney has always been family friendly, senior VP Doreen Rice agrees that with *Miracle*, the company backed the faith community more aggressively than ever had in the past, recognizing "this was a very powerful constituency that, if motivated properly, would provide a huge opportunity for us at the box office."

Hollywood no more alone. Chrysler is the leader of sponsoring a Pentecostal gospel tour of 16 African American churches across the U.S. and "Faith-based" marketing firms like *Miracle* and *Overseas Media Group* are being approached by secular companies to help advertise music, television, and even video games to the Christian community. Greg Siskin, a Christian himself, has written extensively about selling secular products to the faithful. Siskin says they're many enough, not religious organizations can even peddle goods that some might call "unholy" to the faithful. He points to a Sam Adams-sponsored Orthodox celebration

near a Catholic church in Memphis, Tenn., last year. Mind you, he wrote on his blog Proclaiming, the beer company "would be run out of town were it to try this same approach with, say, the Church of Christ."

Some practices are concerned in the prospect of SUVs being displayed in the pews of churches where LaFelle is performing, but many are delighted the corporate world is finally recognizing the buying power of churches. Raytheon Colwell, a high-profile American pastor whose 1,000-member Houston-based church was on the spot, has and he would like more even more attention paid to African American churches. "The Chrysler-Pent tour is a shrewd strategy to galvanize the interest of a market that has usually been forgotten," he said.

And if the flock has been overlooked, so have its daughters. Kate Anderson, who teaches business (the art of preaching) at Trinity Western University in Langley, B.C., says it's actually flummoxing that big business is working up to pastors' power. "We've gone through a period where we do as best as we can," he says. But Anderson believes that Canada, with only a handful of "mega-churches" (congregations numbering anywhere from 1,000 to 10,000), won't attract major marketing. And, despite being blessed by their attention, on the whole he envisions the merchants are away. "We go through advertising the world," he says. "We don't need to start selling soap on the pulpit."



STOP THE PRESSSES... HIGHEST BURGER IN THE LAND
There are eleven burgers, a burger business and Supreme Court Burger, and one is a newspaper that is making the big business decision on the subject: "The Supreme Court." A review in Washington's *Washington Post* of a PBS documentary about the Supreme Court said there was a Justice named as hamburger. There was a chief justice named Warren Burger. "The Los Angeles Times, Feb. 6, at query.nytimes.com.



LAW AND GRANT IN clockwise from top left: *Moulin Rouge*, *Knocked Out*, *Bridget Jones's Diary*, *Notting Hill*, *Breaking and Entering*, *Music and Lyrics*, *Clash*

Sex, guilt and English schoolboys

Are Jude Law and Hugh Grant true leading men, or do they just want a good spanking?

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON • Who knew where it started. Maybe it goes back to the sodas given out at all of these first rock stars who set the gold standard for male sexuality in the '60s. But now, even in this post-*Twilight* *Heroism*, a line of screen dicks that's working better, or more romantic, than an overgrown English schoolboy without a shirt is warm, candid, an apologetic wit, and an emboldened streak that suggests he's done something so terribly naughty he deserves a good spanking. Lately, Britain has produced some hyper-masculine leading men, notably Clive Owen and Daniel Craig, but no more is ruled by sophisticated seduction.

That wish to make the release of two movies featuring Hollywood's favourite English heartthrobs, *Music and Lyrics*, a romantic comedy with Hugh Grant, and *Breaking and Entering*, a drama starring Jude Law. Both these actors have, in real life, done things they're hard to apologize for—Grant got caught with a hooker and Law got caught with his children's nanny. And moreover, each is a big part of their fellow countrymen's appeal.

Grant specializes in romance, Law in dark, gritty. But they tend to find the same female: the complicated first love, a potent mix of a complicated woman from another class or another culture, possibly an American. Grant opened with Julia Roberts in *Notting Hill*, Mandy Patinkin in *American Dreams*, and Leslie Zellweger in *Bridget Jones's Diary*. Now, as a washed-up '60s pop idol in *Music and Lyrics*, he comes up to a girl next door played by Drew Barrymore.

Of Grant in the aging English puppy of romantic comedy, Law seems fated to play the snake in the grass. He betrayed Natalie Portman for Julia Roberts in *Cliver*, and married

around with Cameron Diaz in *The Hot Chick*. As a sexy London architect in *Breaking and Entering*, he strays from a solid relationship with a hot Scandinavian (Robin Wright Peirce) affecting a flirtatious act, and seduces a Boston refugee (Julianne Moore).

Breaking and Entering is Anthony Minghella's first original screenplay since *Truly Madly Deeply*. And in the wake of his literary eyes, The English Patient and *Cold Mountain*, the contemporary London tale makes a rather tormented love-making. Law's architect works for a firm that's gutting the London neighbourhood of King's Cross. After a gang-burglar in a police office, he tracks one of the young culprits back to the home of the homeless teenager. But instead of finding the boy, he finds his mother's heart.

Strapped with Minghella's irresistible intellect, *Breaking and Entering* takes them along to precious new heights. Neglecting his wife and special-needs daughter, Law's character takes a walk on the wild side with the ancient guard and ends—ending in sexual excess and soaring, more redemptive enlightenment. In essence, he even takes pity on his less-than-a-bitch from a wild *Illustration* hooker (Vera Farmiga). The film is a marvel of multi-use, smart, sophisticated. But Law's character almost collapses under the overwhelming elegance of its design.

Grant is another actor whose bed-headed charm conjures up a universe of repressed desire and guilt. In *Music and Lyrics*, he gamely takes the role of Alex, a bad-ass who has been who belongs to a Wham-like band called Pop! Musica for a hit called *Pop Goes My Heart*. But it's a lie. Grant, who does his own singing, also has to be credible as a musician trying to make a comeback—he's asked to write a song for a major pop producer. And on that front, the actor hardly sings to his

But where he seems most uncomfortable, oddly enough, is playing the man once opposed to his own. There's a chemistry between them. She's terrific, in fact, she's the only one who can take his sexual aggression that, in this advanced stage in her career, it seems her role as a girl beginning to blossom. And as her singing rises, Kristen Johnston (*Snatch* from the last) almost needs the movie. Grant, however, looks like he'd be happier under-groomed than this doing an interview with Barrymore. His appeal has always been built on defensive layers of self-protection, wit, and the way of holding his own against the world. And now that Grant is finally showing his age, at 36, the boyish charm that's been his specialty during the long, grueling start of his career, his bad-boy charm, his love-making child are trying to come to adult roles. No wonder Grant wants to quit acting and write a novel. Then the real embarrassment of men began. ■

WE'RE STALKING: RUSSELL CROWE

The star of *Gladiator* Alex has been loved, recently dressed as a modern-day hero performing on the sidelines of his Australian rugby team, the South Sydney Rabbitohs. Crowe, who co-wrote the film, says the porn-porn girls were distracting and made his job uncomfortable. "We wanted to make the focus look like," he says. His response to the cheerleaders with a perceptive hand that tries to encourage crowds to cheer!



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THE REVELADE: AGE of an RV owner just 10 years ago was close to 40. Today that figure has dropped to 45.

Please don't call them trailer parks

The new RV 'resorts' have grand ballrooms, lounges, tennis pros and massage therapists

BY AMY ROSEN • When Raymond Girard, the vice president of media and publishing for the magazine-publishing company Spafax, was considering a recent move to the company's Newport Beach, Calif., offices, he found the only affordable apartment anywhere near water—and why? Yes, anywhere else you'd see the O.C.'s "were unable to enter two-and-a-half-million grand apartments with no view, no personality and apparently built of cardboard," he says. Then a colleague suggested buying an RV and parking it by the water at the Newport Desert RV Resort and Marina, "which seemed preposterous at first." Proposition, until Girard took a closer look. In a surprising new trend that says The Great Gatsby more than the Dealer Park RV, RV parks have gone upscale.

Girard ended up putting a deposit down on an American International CCD series 28-footer, with queen-sized bed, two-piece bath and shower—the trailer, he says, looks like "boutique hotel rooms on wheels." The RV park he looked at had "beautifully landscaped outdoor living 'yards' in your driveway and views of Back Bay from your window."

Just 10 years ago, the average age of an RV owner was close to 40, according to the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds. Today, that figure has dropped to 45. Rob Engman of RVTV, new to its fourth season on the Outdoor Network in the U.S. and on CHUM in Canada, says that with baby boomers arriving at retirement, their expectations of RVing are much higher than those of the previous generation. "What's happening in the RV world—and there's very much the cardiophobe, these people don't want to travel parks or RV camps—is that these are places that have evolved from

camp pools and tennis courts with tennis programs and tennis pros and on-site golf." Examples include the private membership Beachwood Resort in Stockton, Calif., which has heated pools and hot tubs; the deluxe 4000 RV & Golf Resort in Desert Hot Springs, Calif.; the Vineyard RV & Golf Resort in Mesa, Ariz., with its 27-hole golf, grand ballrooms, garden tours and on-site massage therapists; and Crown Villa RV Park in Bend, Ore. Another big trend is ownership in the resort—people actually buy their RV pad. One such place is Alamosa Key RV Resort in the Florida Keys, where a waterfront RV pad goes for a cool US\$799,900.

Engman says five-star RV resorts haven't really caught on in Canada yet, but he's getting there. "I just met two great guys at the RV show in Tampa who quit their corporate jobs in Toronto and bought an RV park in PEI," he says. Leonard Giblin and Michael Goughlin sold their condo in downtown Toronto and purchased Bayview RV Campground on Oyster Bay Bridge, which overlooks picturesque Sarnia Bay on the island. The one Canadian standout, says Engman, is the "truly spectacular" Seaside RV Resort in Parksville on Vancouver Island. In fact, Seaside is one of the five RV resorts listed in the North American edition of the World's Best North American Campground Directory in

get-five-over ratings in both facilities and recreation. It's a gated RV community in which members enjoy extra large RVs averaging 2,500 sq. feet. Then there's the exclusive clubhouse, manicured spa, swimming pool, tennis, and a sailing fleet in the lounge. Desert Side RV Resort in Chagway, B.C., is the next best project. Currently under development, when all is said and done it will cover 21 acres and house 100 sites with perches ranging from a hand-drawn lounge and library to sandy beaches and 18-hole golf courses.

That said, in the RV world, Newport Desert is known as the RV of RV parks, owing to its Orange County address, beachside setting, spa and generally fabulous lifestyle. Its highly trained staff and facilities and the best of both worlds, and it was designed by the same firm that consulted the luxurious Rio Carlsbad hotel down the coast in Laguna Niguel.

For Raymond Girard, the show went on at the beach at Newport Desert was an attractive selling point, as was the prospective neighbors. He was surprised to find that they were much like him: young (many in their forties) and affluent—as evidenced by the Mercedes, BMWs and even the odd Porsche he saw parked outside. He says he's got a standing invitation to park in RVs (once it's fully paid for—for now work has parked it in Toronto) at next year's Sundance Film Festival, so what started off as a "weekend house" has become a "vacation home," he says, a place that's "a real lifestyle in a cute little box."



WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT: PERSONAL SUBMARINES
A Dutch firm, U-boat Works, is introducing a \$150,000 "personal sub," which they promise will enable its owner to "fly" under the sea, as deep as 100 meters, using electric motors for propulsion. There are two-person versions as well as a light-weight, cheaper one-person model. However, it would be a surprise to see anyone in it get sidetracked by a license before beginning their Jacques Cousteau fantasies.



MADONNA on the *Erotica* cover. A Vancouver boutique reports it couldn't keep stay-ups in stock over Christmas.

Thigh me up, thigh me down

Pantyhose with their drooping crotches are hardly erotic. Stay-ups, on the other hand...

BY BARBARA AMIEL • The back cover of a recent *Sofology's* semi-erotic art auction catalogue was a photo of Madonna sitting on a rumpled bed. The \$21,300-\$15,000 estimate turned out to be low. The photo sold for \$1,120. Madonna is holding her breasts, with knees pressed together and legs flaring out below. She's got a huge grin in one of her black-lace stockings, which come from find-artists, perhaps it doesn't shock them. What shock was that that appears to be wearing stay-ups, thigh-highs or hold-ups—erotic-looking, yet without suspension that have a wide band at the top to keep them from falling down.

Stockings have been worn for centuries, keeping up girls and succeeded by suspender belts in such clips that dug into the flesh. Then came lingerie's technological evolution. There is no record of a crotch support for pantyhose, but Allan Gale Sr. of North Carolina is generally blamed for inventing them in 1939. They were perfect for the mid-century look of the times. For a while, pantyhose were considered the last word in comfort and sensuality.

Then women discovered a having a crotch riding between hip and lower a waistband pulled up to rest under the bra was not a plan. The little old crotch patch did not assist health problems—lack of ventilation encouraged infections. Rolling them up and down complicated going to the bathroom. Only a few brave women found gold in them. Anneke Jolly, Montreal star, found enough to put in her bra and a small to have made a fortune with her "Waiping Band for Chastity Devices Belief." Susan Sandomir endorsed Midge Lady pantyhose in a 1971 anti-nuclear, anti-war movement the now perfect to forget.

Men quickly came to see thighs as a contemporary version of the chaste belt, while

women discovered that you can't do a strip tease in them, at least not easily. The very word "pantyhose" began to evoke derision, even contempt, resistance. "Wage and price controls," groaned Lynette Johnson in a recent column said, "will do to the economy what pantyhose did to lingerie." One book presented four ways to create pantyhose, including plain, lacy, backless and a heavy and called an "eye burner." After North American women took to manically wearing one in the new era, the term began to look over. American history manufacturers began to sell them in stores. Lingerie shops off stage were stay-ups.

The early versions were a disaster to sportswomen. Their elastic bands cut circulation without to women and left rashes. Not to mention the dreaded slow descent down thigh to ankle as the day wore on. With the patch a few years ago to a silicone band that could stick comfortably on the body, the picture changed. Stay-ups really stayed up with a high comfort level for women from size 2 to size 38. "Last Christmas we couldn't keep them in stock," said Joanne Currie, a sales associate in Vancouver's Wolford boutique.

All the big American lingerie brands—Fruit, Lingerie, Donna Karan—now make hold-ups. The control garment empire spans brought out a line bearing the name of two stars: "Her

Thighs." The British Sheer Temptation are ten photos of 38 different models ranging from *Archie's* sheer at \$4.95 to La Perla's Nana hold-ups, which look like a corset all the way up the back of the leg with ornate ribbons for \$129.

Holdings have always been a feature on the erotic scene. The dominatrix traditionally wears a corset with garters and stockings. The "French Maid" bandage while dancing to reveal her stocking tops. In the famous Black Swan by photographer Milton Greene, Marilyn Monroe poses in sheer stay-ups.

"It's not the history that begins the second round," explains film producer Robert Lamm, a bachelor of astronomical standing. "Rather it's the thighs that stockings cover and control that sparks that sharp intake of breath—the flash of an upper thigh, a hint of bare flesh above the silk." Or, in Cole Porter's poem: "A glimpse of stocking."

And if Porter's glimpses were more often homoerotic, well, that's very modern too. *Good Love's* *Archie's* line for men includes style A1840 sheer stay-ups in five colors (complementing Archie's line in male pantyhose). The double bands of ribbons, instead the American one, overcome the slide down problem "for guys with leg hair." If after too many washings in or hot stay-ups start slipping, well, there's always "Stretch" hold-up gel. "Apply some to your leg at the first sign of slippage," says the *Archie's* reputation will come comfortably and, "there's no more!" ■



THE LATEST THING IN HAIR ACCESSORIES

Much mischief on the and the GPs, accessories are back. These elastic-covered elastic bands women used to wear to hold their hair in place are undergoing a revival, thanks to British fashion accessory star Kate Miller. The 32-year-old designer, who creates accessories for Marc Jacobs, has brought the scratchy look in a black, studded PVC model that sold out in days in London. Up next: Alice in Wonderland-style hair bands.



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Post-baby, the gulf between a man's interest in sex and his wife's is like the Grand Canyon

But what to do to bridge the gap? Cadenill, O'Neil and Stone conclude that "sex about once a week is required for basic marriage maintenance," and offer tips and suggestions on how women can collect their husbands.



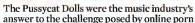
HOTTEST IMPROVEMENT
The blond singer took her beloved building, which she had recently renamed Elks, to the top of the charts, and she enjoyed it as one peddle to the next. Elks had about 100,000 members and a

PINK
found a way to overcome the grief of losing which died tragically in January. Apparently the dog had been a gift from Lisa Marie Presley's dip in Pink's backyard pool. But there more; in January, Pink came home to find her. Now she's coping by getting her 22nd The poach on her left forearm.

with won an award for a dozen sides, and after Steve tearfully Grunage to his late mother.

* At one point in the ceremony, Kanye West walked on stage to present an award. Just a question, as West opened his mouth to speak.

• **Carrie Underwood** Best New Artist
Really? At the American Idol album had the decency to inadvertently give the evening's most hilarious speech: "Thank you, God. Thank you, mom and dad. Thank you."



• I can remember when the Best Rap Album category was created. The Academy feared what a band like Public Enemy might say at the microphone! There was genuine anxiety. This year, the Grammy for Best Rap Album was awarded to Ludacris. He flunked, wrong, others, the William M. W. Agency and Bill O'Reilly. Welcome to the establishment, my mate! Pick up your microphone at the concert desk! ■

ON THE WEB: For Scott Fenschel's take on the news of the day, visit his website www.muckers.ca/fenschel

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ROBERT CASE

1950-2007

He loved the lake, and wanted authorities to mark or remove a large dangerous stump just offshore

Robert Case was born in Windsor, Ont., on March 5, 1950, and grew up on Ducharme Street, in the city's south end. He was a spotted boy, probably because he was a late baby, born 14 years after his brother Gerald, and 17 years after his sister Sharon, to Alvin, a millman who later became a police officer, and Opal, a homemaker. As a boy, Rob had blonde hair and bright blue eyes. Although they later became estranged, he was Sharon's darling. Rob graduated from Kennedy Collegiate Institute, on Tecumseh Road in central Windsor, where he played

minor league baseball for the Clippers. His heart, though, belonged to engines. He was always interested in fixing anything mechanical.

After high school, at 18 (about the same time his hair began to turn gray), Rob started working for a parts manufacturer, J. R. St. Denis and Sons Inc., which repaired the big Three locomotives. Often he was away from the shop, across the Detroit River at Ford's Wayne Stamping & Assembly Plant or the Michigan Truck Plant. Here Jaguar began assembling car bodies made by U. R. St. Denis. Rob once travelled to England, a country he found weird, but beautiful.

Rob met Grace Ward, who was living in Detroit, was bowling late in 1970 when they were both 22. Grace already had two daughters, Christina, who was a baby, and Carrie, who was 4—free on an unhappy first union. She and Rob lived together for years because Grace was lonely for getting married again. Rob had always dreamed of living on nearby Lake Erie. In '68, a small body of water between Lake Huron and Lake Erie. So Grace, he and Grace bought a little house with front and back docked on the lake. He liked the Communism, a combination and degradation worker, with Rob the "king of the lake." He knew every inch of the waterway, especially where the muskie, perch and pickerel could be found. He was biggest out on the water, says Jeff Gault, another close friend. "He liked to sit like a kid on a worm. He liked it raining." And if he could bring his dog along, all the better.

Rob's dog was named Tabby. He was a treacherous walker combined with a white coat (accentuated by large brown and black patches). For years, whenever Rob went—splitting wood, wrenching MASCAR on TV, clearing his workbench in the garage or fishing on the lake—Tabby followed. As Rob noticed him out of the water, Tabby would leap over the side of the Rob's aluminum boat, splash down in his

mouth and pull them up in his teeth. If Tabby grew tired while they were out together, as he often did toward the end of his 16 years, Rob would pick him up and carry him home.

In 1980, after his daughters were grown, Grace finally agreed to marry Rob. Because she knew him as a casual dancer who usually wore a camouflage ball cap, Grace remembers being impressed with the effort he made on their wedding day. He walked into the Belle River United Church wearing black pants, a black dress shirt, and a white rose boutonniere. He was "a decent good man," she says, and always treated her daughters, who visited regularly from the U.S., like they were his own.

Since Grace and Rob were born 11 days apart, they celebrated their birthdays together. For the past few years, the nearest dinner for one at Hidden Pubs & Eatery on nearby St. Joseph, where they could get 20-cent wings on Thursday nights. Rob didn't care for expensive dinners, but he loved sitting over an open fire in his backyard Dutch oven or on the barbecue, often frying up a big batch of perch he'd just caught.

Three years ago, Grace says, a massive stump washed up on a bank, but several hundred metres behind their house. Its presence annoyed Rob. From the day he first saw it, Rob repeatedly called the Essex Region Conservation Authority, a local body that manages the county's natural resources, and asked them to remove it. "That can't stay in the lake," Rob told them, according to Grace. "It's too big. We'll have kids on jet boats getting killed by that stump." But ERCA said it didn't have the funds to remove it, Grace recalls. ERCA says stump removal would do more harm than good.

After Tabby died nine months ago, Rob, who started work every morning at 11 a.m., began taking an overtime, sometimes putting in 15 or 16-hour days and often working seven-day stretches. There were always bills to pay. "We had just got all caught up this month," says Grace. Rob had the time to go riding on his 1986 St-Denis Formula he called "Never Enough."

Friday, Feb. 2, was crisp and cold. "It was the kind of cold that would bite you," says Grace. The snow was hard-packed and felt like cement when Rob and Jeff rode off, side by side, to take one more run around the lake just before midnight. Rob drove right into the stump. He was flung from the seatbelt and died on the ice.

BY TRACY MACDONALD



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